

THE PINK

Saturday, January 23, 2016

65p

Supporting local sport

Daily Echo

P65p ISSN 0969-56X3

ISSN 0969-563X



Published by Newsquest Media (Southern) Ltd and printed at Newsquest (Southern) Ltd, from the offices at Newspaper House, Redbridge, Southampton, SO16 9JX. Telephone 023 8042 4800. Registered at the Post Office as a newspaper. 126th year.

**Sunderland v
Cherries report**
SEE PAGE 4

dailyecho.co.uk/sport

CHARLIE AUSTIN



The lowdown on Saints' new signing - P10-16

AUSTIN SEVEN...

...that's how many minutes it took £4m Charlie to net on dream debut

MANCHESTER UNITED 0 SAINTS 1

CHARLIE Austin scored a fairy tale winning goal just seven minutes after coming on for his Saints debut to hand his new team a dramatic 1-0 win against Manchester United.

The £4m man, who only joined from QPR a week previously, stepped off the bench on 79 minutes at Old Trafford with the

game deadlocked, but soon put away a clinical header with his first chance in a Saints shirt to seal a memorable win.

It was the second successive year Saints had beaten United at Old Trafford and made it three back-to-back Premier League wins for Ronald Koeman's side, which lifted them to eighth in the table.

● Report and reaction: pages 2-3



Charlie Austin wheels away to celebrate his dramatic late winner for Saints at Old Trafford

twitter



@saintstravel

SOUTHAMPTON AWAY TRAVEL
Taking Saints fans away for the past 5 seasons!

ARSENAL V SAINTS 2ND FEB £19.95

SWANSEA V SAINTS 13TH FEB £22.95

Entertainment & 4G Wifi on Board. Free Food & Drink.

Now with reclining seats & extra leg room

Travel in comfort by coach and arrive in style from Southampton to your designated Football away match venue. Arrive at least 90 minutes before kick-off. Pick-up points from Holton Heath, Ringwood, Marchwood, Totton, Southampton Central, Stadium, Fleming Park & Winchester, Chieveley.

Website relaunched!

For more details on how to purchase your ticket, contact:

07801867365 (Nick) • www.southamptonawaytravel.co.uk

Southampton
Away Travel

4G



Man United 0 Saints 1: £4m Charlie already a hero

Austin gives Saints career a head start



HIGH FLIER: Southampton's Sadio Mane shows some close control to keep the ball from Manchester United's Daley Blind

CHARLIE Austin scored a fairy tale winning goal just seven minutes after coming on for his Saints debut to hand his new team a dramatic 1-0 win against Manchester United.

The £4m man, who only joined from QPR a week previously, stepped off the bench on 79 minutes at Old Trafford with the game dead-locked, but soon put away a clinical header with his first chance in a Saints shirt to seal a memorable win, writes **ADAM LEITCH**.

It was the second successive year Saints had beaten United at Old Trafford and made it three back-to-back Premier League wins for Ronald Koeman's side, which lifted them to eighth in the table.

Many had predicted a game short on chances and the opening stages certainly backed up that theory.

Both sides had numbers behind the ball as they sparred for superiority.

Koeman tried to ensure Saints would have the chance to be a threat by slightly altering the formation from the last couple of games with two players rather than one, in this case Sadio Mane and Dusan Tadic, playing behind Shane Long with the wing backs and defensive midfielders helping out the three centre halves.

Anthony Martial was the first player to get a shot off, capitalising on the Saints defence backing off, but from 20 yards out he dragged it well wide.

Daley Blind tried his luck in similar circumstances but from even further out. His shot was well struck but



IMPRESSING THE BOSS: Charlie Austin gets a hug from

TEAM CHECK

- New signing Charlie Austin was on the bench for Saints as they faced Manchester United at Old Trafford.
- Ronald Koeman made two changes to the side that defeated West Brom 3-0.
- James Ward-Prowse, who scored twice against the Baggies, was dropped for Dusan Tadic, who had netted off the bench in successive matches, and scored the winner for Saints at Old Trafford last season.
- Steven Davies missing through injury with Jordy Clasie replacing him.
- Maarten Stekelenburg was fit enough to return to the bench but Graziano Pelle missed out because of his ongoing knee problem.
- Saints: Forster, Cedric, van Dijk, Fonte, Bertrand, Targett, Wanyama, Clasie, Tadic, Mane, Long.
- Subs: Stekelenburg, Yoshida, Martina, Romeu, Ward-Prowse, Juanmi, Austin.
- Man Utd: De Gea, Darmian, Smalling, Blind, B-Jackson, Schneiderlin, Fellaini, Lingard, Herrera, Martial, Rooney.
- Subs: Romero, McNair, Varela, Pereira, Januzaj, Mata, Memphis.

straight at Fraser Forster who made an easy catch.

Saints were complaining to Mike Jones on 16 minutes when Victor Wanyama went down clutching his face after being caught by a trailing elbow from Marouane Fellaini

as he jumped for a header but the referee saw nothing wrong.

Saints were again guilty of giving a player too much space, Wayne Rooney on this occasion, but once more a shot from outside the box

seta
TRAINING FOR INDUSTRY

**OPEN
EVENING**

Thursday
25th February 2016
4:30pm - 7:30pm



Apprenticeships

**SOUTHAMPTON ENGINEERING
TRAINING ASSOCIATION**

**First Avenue, Millbrook
Southampton, Hampshire
SO15 0LJ**

**Telephone: 023 8077 1908
Email: info@seta-training.co.uk
Web: www.setatraining.co.uk**

Sunderland 1 Cherries 1

Cherries have to settle for point

CHERRIES were forced to settle for a point in the North East despite dominating for large spells.

Benik Afobe's 12th goal of the season, and second for Cherries following his move from Wolves this month, was cancelled out by a Patrick van Aanholt strike on the stroke of half-time.

Eddie Howe's side bossed an entertaining first-half at the Stadium of Light and should have really put the game beyond Sam Allardyce's strugglers.

But missed chances let the hosts back in the game on Wearside, while Lewis Grabban missed a gilt-edged chance late on to win the game for the visitors.

Howe named an unchanged side following Saturday's impressive 3-0 win over Norwich at Vitality Stadium, with January signings Juan Iturbe and Lewis Grabban having to settle for places on the bench. Matt Ritchie, who missed the Canaries game with a dead leg, was also named among the substitutes.

After an opening largely dominated by the hosts in terms of possession, Charlie Daniels got the first effort on target after six minutes, Vito Mannone saving easily.

Moments later, following an intense spell of pressure on the Sunderland back four, Afobe almost got on the end of Dan Gosling's ball across the face of goal.

And on 13 minutes, Cherries were in front, assisted, it has to be said, by some dubious goalkeeping from Vito Mannone.

Harry Arter fed Junior Stanislas down the right, who crossed into the danger area and, following a favourable bounce, Afobe headed directly at Mannone who could only flap at the ball and help it on its way into the net.

The home crowd were furious and boos rang out across the Stadium of Light when Stanislas almost doubled Cherries' lead two minutes later. A clever corner routine involving Stanislas and Arter saw Andrew Surman shoot narrowly wide. It was all Cherries.

Stanislas again went close when forcing Mannone to beat away his right-foot shot after good work from Gosling, before Afobe did likewise eight minutes later.

It seemed a question of when Cherries would score a second rather than if they would, but Sunderland survived the storm and settled. Yann M'Vila's cross from the left just after the half-hour mark was headed back across goal by Billy Jones and John O'Shea's header forced Artur Boruc to save well down to his left.

Moments before the break, Fabio Borini's deflected effort was easily saved by Boruc, before van Aanholt levelled the scores.

Jerome Lens squared to Borini who played in van Aanholt and, with Adam Smith and Stanislas having lost sight of the Dutchman, he unleashed a fearsome shot across Boruc. Howe's men were left wondering why, instead of being level, they hadn't converted the chances they had done so well to create as the teams walked into the tunnel.



AFC Bournemouth's Benik Afobe celebrates scoring his side's goal during at the Stadium of Light

Stanislas should have done better just after the restart when blazing well over Mannone's crossbar while, at the other end, Adam Johnson's volley was easily saved by Boruc.

Jermain Defoe had been quiet by his standards but went close to handing Sunderland the lead on 56 minutes, his right-foot shot flashing narrowly wide after the little striker had given Simon Francis the slip.

The home side were in the ascendancy and Boruc was again on hand to halt their charge when he beat away Jones's header from Adam Johnson's cross.

The game sprung into life 20 minutes from time. M'Vila forced Boruc to save when he connected beautifully to Lens's free kick from the left.

Suddenly Allardyce's side looked like they had a bit of fight in them. They tackled and chased hard and closed down far better than they had during that first half period where Cherries should have been more than one goal in front.

Howe would have almost certainly taken a point at this stage of the game and with Allardyce's side looking the more threatening, although the Cherries boss would have watched in horror as Grabban, who had beaten the offside trap superbly, skewed his shot horribly wide with only Mannone to beat seven minutes from time. It was a wonderful chance. A match-winning chance.

Stanislas was replaced by Glenn Murray late on, carried off by physio

Steve Hard with a knee injury following a nasty tackle by Jones.

MATCH FACTS

Sunderland: (4-4-1-1) Mannone; Jones, Brown, O'Shea, van Aanholt; Lens (Rodwell, 87), M'Vila, Cattermole, Borini (Watmore, 68); Johnson; Defoe.

Unused subs: N'Doye, Coates, Yedlin, Fletcher, Pickford (g/k). Booked: Jones

Cherries: (4-5-1) Boruc; Smith, Francis, Cook, Daniels; Stanislas, Gosling, Surman, Arter, Pugh (Ritchie, 57); Afobe (Grabban, 65).

Unused subs: Distin, O'Kane, Iturbe, Murray, Federici (g/k). Booked: Surman

Ex-Saint stuns Norwich

LIVERPOOL came from 3-1 down to beat Norwich 5-4 with a dramatic winner from ex-Saint Adam Lallana deep into stoppage time of an extraordinary Barclays Premier League match at Carrow Road. Reds boss Jurgen Klopp lost his glasses in the touchline celebrations which followed Lallana's scuffed strike, just moments after Sebastian Bassong looked to have earned the Canaries a share of the spoils.

It was a first Premier League win of 2016 for Liverpool, but Saturday's lunchtime kick off was notable more for defensive errors than any real attacking quality.

Liverpool forward Roberto Firmino (18) opened the scoring, but Congo frontman Dieumerci Mbokani (29) levelled with a clever backheel, before Steven Naismith (41) marked his transfer from Everton with a debut goal as the hosts led 2-1 at half-time.

Wes Hoolahan (54) looked to have set Norwich on their way to victory when he converted a penalty after Alberto Moreno upended Naismith.

However, Liverpool rallied as Jordan Henderson (55) and Firmino (63) levelled things up again, before James Milner (75) put the visitors in front when he latched onto an incredulous 50-yard backpass from Norwich captain Russell Martin.

Much to Klopp's annoyance, there were five minutes of stoppage time signalled - and Carrow Road erupted when Bassong drilled the ball in from the edge of the box.

However, it was the Reds players and coaching staff who were celebrating wildly when the final whistle came after the Norwich defence had again failed to clear their lines, and Lallana hit his shot into the ground before the ball bounced up past a crestfallen Declan Rudd.

Leicester moved back to the top of the table after they beat Stoke 3-0 at the King Power Stadium.

The Foxes took the lead just before half-time through midfielder Danny Drinkwater (42).

Striker Jamie Vardy (66) netted his 16th goal of the season on the break, before Leo Ulloa (87) added a late third.

Midfielder Dele Alli (84) cracked in a superb late strike as Tottenham beat Crystal Palace 3-1 at Selhurst Park. The Eagles went ahead through an own goal from Spurs defender Jan Vertonghen (30), but in-form Harry Kane levelled (63) with a close-range header.

Alli secured all three points for the visitors when he crashed in a volley from the edge of the box. Nacer Chadli scored a third deep into stoppage time.

Watford beat struggling Newcastle 2-1 at Vicarage Road to end a run of four straight league defeats. Odion Ighalo (46) put the Hornets ahead just after the restart, before defender Craig Cathcart (58) made it 2-0. Although Jamaal Lascelles (71) reduced the deficit, there was no way back for the Magpies, who are 18th.

AFC Totton 2 Bridgwater Town 0

Gos gets Stags back on track

AFC TOTTON got back to winning ways in the Southern One South & West with a 2-0 win over Bridgwater Town at the Testwood Stadium.

A goal in each half from Mike Gosney and Nick Watts was enough to seal the points for Steve Hollick's men, *writes WENDY GEE.*

Mike Gosney, making his 386th club appearance to equal Mark Osman's all-time Stags record, had a hand in the game's first chance with nine minutes gone.

With Totton flooding bodies into the area, he cut the ball back for Nick Watts whose full-blooded blast was deflected out for a corner.

The first booking arrived three minutes later when Josh White cynically clipped Nathaniel Sherborne's ankles right in front of the home dugout.

Sherborne was able to continue after treatment and Totton quickly got back into the groove with Dylan Knight firing wide on the turn from Liam Hibberd's right-wing cross.

Stags' midfielder Neil Williams was next in referee Marcus Carmichael's notebook for a firm challenge on Connor O'Sullivan and Gosney quickly followed when he took out Reeko Best from behind to stop a swift Bridgwater breakout.

It took the visitors all of half-an-hour to muster their first shot of note, sent well wide by Issac Reid.

But, like buses, three chances came at once and the next two were far more dangerous.

First Totton keeper Steve Mowthorpe needed two strong hands to push behind Reid's angled shot on the turn and then, from the resulting corner, Gosney cleared Ben Palmer's header off the line.

The stags responded positively with Watts' chipped pass picking out Knight inside the right of the area. The ex-Fawley striker's hit brought the best out of Totton keeper Jake Viney who managed to turn it away for a corner.

The Stags kept pressing and, after Williams had thundered a shot wide from distance, the breakthrough finally came with 42 minutes gone.

Watts shuffled across the edge of the area seemingly looking for a place to shoot. Instead, he laid the ball off to GOSNEY who, to the surprise of everyone, hit a first-time beauty, left-footed straight into the keeper's bottom right-hand corner from 25 yards.

Mowthorpe came to Totton's rescue, reacting sharply to save at Best's feet and, with the half-time whistle imminent, Watts' cross found Sherborne unmarked at the far post, but he hesitated slightly and Viney managed to stretch out a hand to save.

The game ebbed and flowed after the break with Gosney having a free-kick charged down and Watts sending a 20-yarder just wide for Totton.

In between, Bridgwater were unlucky when a deep cross from the



AFC Totton's Nathaniel Sherborne is brought down by Bridgwater's Josh White, who was yellow carded for the foul



AFC Totton's Dylan Knight watches on as the Stags have a shot cleared off the line. Pictures: Stuart Martin

left was marginally too high for the unmarked Best. With the hour mark approaching the Stags withdrew the hard-working Knight and introduced new strike signing Mark Gamble for his home debut.

But it was Sherborne who had the next Totton chance, heading straight at keeper Viney from Ian Oliver's pinpoint cross.

Gosney then sent the ball forward towards Gamble who met it at full stretch and, as the ball scooted across the area, Sherborne so nearly got a touch.

Gosney soon found Gamble again, this time with an inviting cross from the right which the new signing headed just over.

The Sherborne brought a save out of Viney after Gamble had helped the ball on.

Bridgwater though, still posed a threat and James Byrne was allowed too much room to burst through the middle and get a long range shot away which, happily for Totton, was easy for Mowthorpe.

Gosney, already booked, got a ticking off for bringing down George Sinot. Bridgwater wasted a free-kick and, as Totton broke Sherborne's penalty appeal fell on deaf ears as he went down under O'Sullivan's challenge.

Sinot curled a shot just wide for Bridgwater as the game became increasingly stretched.

Then, at the other end, Gosney found Watts with a Crossfield pass. The No. 7 drove on and, with the 290 crowd collectively holding their breath lashed his shot just wide of the far post.

But there was to be a happy ending for WATTS who made the result safe with just over a minute of normal time remaining.

He played a one-two with Williams inside the right of the area. The ball took a small nick on the way back to him but he brought it down and calmly stroked it in for 2-0.

Watts and Gosney came close to adding to Totton's tally in stoppage time before White sent a header inches wide for the visitors.

NON-LEAGUE RESULTS

NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH
Bath City 0 Concord Rangers 1
Bishops Cleeve 2 Gosport Borough 0
Chelmsford City 4 Whitehawk 3
Eastbourne Borough 3 Wealdstone 0
Ebbsfleet 1 Margate 2
Havant & Waterlooville 1 Basingstoke Town 0
Hayes & Yeading 1 Hemel Hempstead Town 1
Oxford City 4 St Albans City 1
Sutton United 2 Dartford 0
Truro City 4 Maidenhead United 4
Weston-s-Mare pp Maidstone

EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division
Bedworth 1 Paulton Rovers 1
Bideford 1 Leamington 1
Biggleswade 1 Hungerford 4
Cambridge City 0 Redditch United 2
Chippingham 3 Histon 0
Dunstable 1 Dorchester 0
Frome pp Chesham
Kings Lynn 2 Cirencester 0
Merthyr Town 1 Poole Town 1
Slough 1 Hitchin 0
Stratford 2 St Neots 1
Weymouth 3 Kettering 2

Division One South & West
AFC Totton 2 Bridgwater 0
Bashley 0 Banbury 5
Burnham 1 Taunton 3
Cinderford pp Winchester City
Evesham 0 Didcot 1
Larkhall Athletic 0 Wimbome 2
Mangotsfield 0 Shortwood 0
North Leigh 1 Swindon Supermarine 2
Slimbridge 2 Marlow 0
Tiverton pp Bishops Cleeve
Wantage pp Yale

SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division
AFC Portchester 5 Cowes Sports 1
Aldersford 2 Horndean 1
Bournemouth Poppies 2 Brockenhurst 1
Fareham Town pp Hamworthy United
Lynton Town 0 Bemerton HH 4
Newport IOW pp Andover Town
Salisbury 1 Sholing 0
Team Solent 3 Moseleyfield 2
Verwood 2 Blackfield & Langley 3
Whitchurch 2 Fawley AFC 0

Division One
Alton Town 2 New Milton 0
Andover NS 0 Totton & Eling 7
Downton A-A Amesbury
East Cowes Vics 2 Pewsey Vale 3
Hythe & Dibden 5 Fleet Spurs 1
Portland United 1 Romsey Town 0
Ringwood 2 Christchurch 2
Tadley Calleva 3 Laverstock & Ford 0
US Portsmouth pp AFC Stoneham

PUMA ENGINEERING HAMPSHIRE PREMIER LEAGUE
Premier Division
Bush Hill pp Liphook
Chamberlayne Athletic 0 Netley Central 2
Clanfield 5 Locks Heath 3
Colden Common 3 Fleetlands 3
Infantry 1 Stockbridge 7
Liphook United 3 QK Southampton 1
Liss pp Paulsgrove
Overton 2 Otterbourne 5
Winchester Castle 4 Stockbridge 2

Division 1
Andover Lions pp Michelmersh & Timsbury
Fourmarks 4 Broughton 4
Sway 0 Hayling United 4
Upham pp Lyndhurst
Combination East
Baffins Milton Rovers 4 Headley United 1
Fleetlands 5 Liss 1
Hayling United pp AFC Petersfield
Combination West
Hamble Club 2 Winchester Castle 0
QK Southampton pp Bush Hill.

SOUTHAMPTON SENIOR CUP
Quarter-final
Chamberlayne Athletic 0 Netley Central Sports 2

ALDERSHOT INTERMEDIATE CUP
Second round
AFC Petersfield pp Sandhurst Town
Headley United 1 Overton 0

WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Division 1
Romsey Town 4 Alton Town 1
All other games postponed.

JOIN THE BIGGEST & BEST

5-A-SIDE

LEAGUES IN SOUTHAMPTON

FREE TRIAL GAME

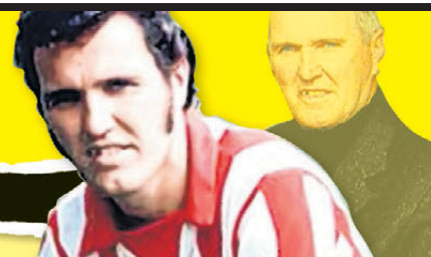
FREE WEEKEND PITCHES

£60 BAR VOUCHERS

CALL NOW 02380 510 666 or VISIT goalsfootball.co.uk
Goals Southampton, Millbrook Point Road, Millbrook, Southampton SO15 0JZ

Paine's World

The Saints legend's **EXCLUSIVE** column on all things football



Saints back on the up and aiming for Europe

WHAT A difference a month makes.

In mid-December, with Southampton sitting 12th in the table after 16 games and heading into the dense holiday schedule, I wrote in this space about Saints' disappointing season and how they were missing a rare realistic chance to finish top four and qualify for the Champions League.

What was left unsaid was that even a return to the Europa League looked to be beyond Saints' struggling grasp.

The top four remains out of reach but, despite winning only one game during the aforementioned holiday period — a 4-0 thrashing of Arsenal on Boxing Day — the prospect of European football on the south coast next season is suddenly very much back in play.

After 22 games, Saints now sit 10th, a mere three points off of seventh heading into this weekend and only another two points out of sixth. Seventh place may not sound like much at first but it is a bit of a magic number in the EPL table; it's the lowest a club can finish and still have a shot at qualifying for Europa, as Saints did last season.

Three factors share responsibility for turning Saints' frowns upside down.

First has been the return to action of Fraser Forster.

At the start of the season there were fears that it might be March before the England international keeper would be fit to return to duty.

With two seasons beyond the current one remaining on his contract, any return to health this year would have been viewed as a positive for Saints' future prospects, but realistically there would have been little chance at Forster impacting Saints' fortunes this season if he'd returned in March or later.

Fortunately, Forster's rehab from the gruesome knee injury he suffered late last season came off with nary a setback.

The big man's return this past week paid immediate dividends as Saints took six points on two clean sheets in four days in Forster's first two games.

One hesitates to read too much into home wins over Watford and West Bromwich Albion but both wins were of the dominant type with Saints in complete control of all facets of the game.

Although Forster was only lightly tested in both games, the confidence the squad clearly has in Forster seemed to set the tone for both games.

The second factor in the brightening prospects at St Mary's is the weekend signing of 26-year-old striker Charlie Austin.

In Austin, Saints have potentially made the signing of the January transfer window, and at the bargain-basement price of £4m. The price could reportedly climb to £8.5m with incentives, but Austin is a smart buy



Fraser Forster's return has made a big difference to Saints

even at that price.

More importantly, if the incentives are indeed reached it will likely mean that Austin is playing often and well, meaning the club will surely be happy to pay the additional fees.

Perhaps the biggest problem for Ronald Koeman's men this season has been an inability to make the most of their advantage in possession by finishing their chances.

Austin would appear to be the perfect remedy for that particular ailment. A veritable goal machine in the Championship at QPR, Austin has already proven his ability to score in the Premier League, as he netted 18 last season during QPR's one-season stint in the top flight.

The fiery Austin will be keen to return to the top level in the hopes of receiving another England call-up and figures to make it very difficult for Graziano Pelle to find his way back into a starting role.

He also gives Ronald Koeman a ready replacement in the event that the 30 year-old

Pelle decides to move to Serie A for the final years of his prime, whether during this window or in the summer.

The third factor, and probably the biggest one if we're being honest (seeing as Charlie Austin has yet to even don the red and white stripes), is the competition.

Seemingly everyone outside of the top four is struggling, including every serious contender for the Europa positions.

The four clubs immediately above Saints are Liverpool, Crystal Palace, Stoke and West Ham.

The Hammers recently followed an impressively long unbeaten stretch by losing to relegation-threatened Newcastle.

Crystal Palace had put some distance between themselves and Southampton but now have lost three straight, including to basement-dwelling Aston Villa, and have not scored a goal in their past five league games.

Liverpool actually have a negative goal dif-

ference, having shown an even greater inability to finish their chances than Saints.

And Stoke...are Stoke.

Meanwhile, the trio of clubs immediately behind Southampton, Everton, Watford and West Brom give little indication that they can keep pace with Saints.

Watford and West Brom, in particular, appear to be going in the opposite direction.

It's not hard to imagine Saints looking at the table and feeling like they can catch at least three if not all four of those in front of them while at the same time fending off the clubs just below them.

Whether Southampton can actually make the top seven remains to be seen, of course. And even if they do it might not be good enough for Europa.

But it now appears Saints have something to play for in 2016 beyond just treading water in mid-table, which is a far and welcome cry from where the club seemed to be just one month ago.

Adam Rant



The week's big talking points
with ADAM LEITCH

Austin deal shows Saints can adapt

First team affairs always should be the top priority

ULTIMATELY it doesn't really matter much what a football club does in the eyes of its fans as long as the first team are winning.

There has not been a chairman or chief executive in the game that has not been driven to distraction by goings on behind the scenes, well away from the business of players, managers, training and matches.

Of course, all well run and managed clubs need to have the right staff in the right places to ensure they are making progress.

In this day and age more than ever football clubs are big businesses, and maximising profits and opportunities elsewhere can feed back into the first team.

But all anybody really cares about is what happens when the first team stride out.

That's why people love football.

It's not because of the values and spirit of a club, it's not because of their charitable work, their commercial departments, their forays into overseas markets, their culture in the offices.

It's because they want to turn up and enjoy a game of football, and to see their team win.

Indeed, it really matters little to people what is going behind the scenes if the team is winning. Pretty much anything can be forgiven.

It was therefore nice to see Saints remember this last week as they secured the signing of Charlie Austin.

When chairman Ralph Krueger spoke glowingly about the progress in the culture of the club and the behind the scenes, day-to-day type stuff, he was clearly passionate and thoughtful. However, he quite rightly concluded that few people other than the club's employees care about that.

All that matters is what the first team are doing.

Having experienced a first little hint of a trough since taking over there was no doubt pressure on Saints to act.

They did that by bringing in Austin.

He looks every bit a bargain, and as long as he's fit he is the type who will score goals.

His down to earth nature, thanks in part to his non-league background, and the fact he has a streak on the pitch, means he could become



Charlie Austin celebrates scoring against Saints for QPR at St Mary's

a real cult hero.

He is not the type of signing that fits the recent Saints mould. He's a bit older than they ideally like as his resale value at the end of his contract might well be minimal, plus he will be on good money for a Saints player given his QPR deal was running down and he was sought after.

He has had a few injuries, and

though he insists he is now very settled, a bit of a reputation has followed him around with regards to his temperament.

However, he was the player Ronald Koeman wanted, and most would agree needed.

He is a fantastic signing for the club, and could be a real great for them over the years.

It was the right time to forget about the off field stuff, to park the principles and grand philosophies and just concentrate on the first team.

Saints proved with this signing they can do just that.

It makes everything else that is happening away from the pitch all the more positive.

Snooker's class drop

THERE has again been much talk of how snooker has progressed and how wonderful the current crop of players are, but Adam Rant cannot help but have his doubts.

When you see Ronnie O'Sullivan winning the Masters – his first big tournament for nine months, and following back surgery – it rather suggests otherwise.

If O'Sullivan had been at his majestic best then you could write it off. O'Sullivan at his best is the greatest player to ever pick up a cue.

However, when he does it clearly not at full throttle, battling with his game and scrapping his way through, and he wins at a canter, it suggests otherwise.

Indeed, Adam Rant would contend that the standard has actually gone down.

The days when you had O'Sullivan, Stephen Hendry, John Higgins, Mark Williams, Matthew Stevens and Paul Hunter, as well as a host of other very talented also-rans, in full flow has proven to be the very pinnacle.

Forget the stats, at that stage snooker was at its most competitive, and the quality a champion had to produce was beyond question.

O'Sullivan is a genius, but he doesn't need to entirely show it now in order to thrive.



Ronnie O'Sullivan

Pep it up a bit please

ADAM Rant has to confess that for all the talk of the January transfer window being dull, it's actually hearing the name Pep Guardiola over and over again which is proving very tiresome.

He's a great manager, he's going to leave Bayern Munich at the end of the season, he's set to come to the Premier League.

There is literally nothing else to know until he joins someone.

It might be Chelsea, it might be Manchester City, it might be Manchester United.

Every day a new story, every day the same thing though, and months still to go.

Dull, dull, dull.

SAINTS SPOTLIGHT

Liverpool need to get a new plan to thrive



BY anyone's standards, last weekend was an exceptional one.

A second convincing Premier League home victory on the bounce and a top drawer signing.

If Carlsberg did weekends ...

It showed the fascinating duality of being a Saints fan.

On one hand, two cracking wins, two clean sheets and England's real number one back with aplomb.

That countered with the rumour that Liverpool had yet again put a bid in for yet another Saints player in Shane Long, a reported £8m.

That is a figure any Saints fan would feel is completely and utterly insulting.

You may well have felt that the £12m Saints paid for him was over the top, but since then his ability and sheer effort have made him worth that sort of money.

Play him on a regular basis and he will score goals, but most importantly create them through sheer work rate.

To bid £4m less after improving him as a player is derisory and has, apparently, been immediately rejected.

Long is one of those players you want to keep — a great team player and someone whose work ethic is second to none.

Yet again, though, it begs the question why football allows just a blatant abuse of one football club from another?

How can the game allow a club like Liverpool to corporately raid Southampton FC so often and with such little regard for us as an ongoing business?

You would think that four first team players was enough, but apparently not.

Let's be frank here, and if you're a Liverpool fan reading this then tough.

Your club will never challenge the likes of Manchester City, United, Chelsea or Arsenal when you're forever raiding teams below you.

The truth here is the best Saints can hope for, with finance in football being what it is, is Champions League... at best.

You can argue that with those players we were forced to sell, we could have done just that — qualified for the Champions League.

Once you're in that particular shop window you can attract a whole different level of player and, from there, make serious inroads into cracking that top four cartel.

I can't begin to tell you how angry Liverpool's bid for Long makes me.

When Saints lost Clyne to Liverpool that was the straw that broke the camel's back, but Long? Are Liverpool that bereft of imagination that they feel the need to sign the whole Saints first team?

But what can the club do?

Once the player's head has been turned



Shane Long is the latest Saints player reported to be interesting Liverpool

there's nothing we can do with an employee that wants away.

The Bosman ruling has ruined football. A player earns in a week what a nurse does in a year. The 'downside' to this is that they should be contractually obliged to the company that pays their exorbitant wages.

Is it asking too much that a footballer, not a doctor or a rocket scientist, has to 'endure' different working conditions to the average worker, who indirectly pays their wages?

How on earth can you apply the same em-

ployment law for a nurse on £20,000 a year to a footballer on that amount, minimum, a week?

Is a footballer really worth 52 times what a nurse is paid?

The Bosman ruling was made for a below average footballer who found himself stuck with nowhere to go.

Is it asking that much that for those sorts of wages you have to adhere to different employment laws than the rest of us mere mortals?

You get paid obscene amounts of money, it's only fair that you are subject to the terms and conditions of your contract.

You act up and under-perform to strong arm a move. Should you not be penalised for that rather than rewarded with move to a different club and a higher wage?

That gripe out of the way, the Charlie Austin transfer is a spectacular piece of business for Saints.

At £4m the striker is an absolute steal.

It shows that the club doesn't do its business in plain sight and are constantly working behind the scenes to ensure we get the right man at the right price.

For a striker with a proven track record in this league, £4m is remarkable business.

So much so that it had West Ham's chairman assuming Austin is on record breaking wages. Maybe he's not. Maybe he just sees us as step up rather than to the side.

David Gold further stirred things by implying that Austin had a "suspect knee" an accusation that the player doesn't appear to care for very much.

There may well be a reason for the low fee, but unless Gold has access to QPR's ledger or was present at the contract signing then he knows absolutely nothing.

The Sun then followed up on his accusations, stating on social media "You won't believe what wages Charlie Austin is on at Southampton" and then bemoaned Austin's move to "Mediocre mid-table Southampton" as opposed to "title-chasing Leicester."

That would be the same mediocre Southampton who were in almost the exact same position as Leicester are now last season.

I don't remember the Sun describing us a "title chasing Southampton" back then?

The truth, that the Sun seems to have side-stepped as they troll for hits on social media sites, is that for ambitious young English players, Southampton is a good move.

If you're good enough you'll get a chance and will play first team football.

The environment is productive and conducive to producing good footballers.

The area is second to none and the club has a reputation for enhancing footballers rather than chewing them up and spitting them out.

Why wouldn't Austin want to come here?

His signing is a masterstroke.

If the knee is a problem then £4m is a risk worth taking, but if he gets anywhere near his form last season it's the bargain of the season.

It also sends a message out to the doubters that despite what "matey in the know" says on a social media site, only the club knows what our transfer targets are and they're working on them all the time, even as we speak.

In short, relax, take a deep breath and take solace from the fact that the club has never let us down whilst under the Liebherr leadership and continues to surprise us and delight us.

February should be an interesting month...

Boreham Wood 1 Eastleigh 1

Drury's late strike stretches Eastleigh's unbeaten run

ANDY Drury struck two minutes into stoppage time to rescue a point for Eastleigh at Boreham Wood and stretch to six the Spitfires' unbeaten league run.

Jamie Lucas had drilled the hosts into a 43rd minute lead, with Chris Todd's side apparently struggling to shake off the effects of their mid-week cup tie at Bolton, *writes Paul McNamara*.

A sterile game came to life in the second-half as Eastleigh poured forward in search of an equaliser.

But, having failed break through, the visitors seemed destined to leave Hertfordshire empty handed, until Drury pounced at the death.

The home side were first to have a strike at goal, Billy Clifford's fourth minute long-range drive deflecting off Paul Reid on its way over the bar.

Clifford was swiftly back in the action, with the former Chelsea youngster latching onto Luke Howell's pass from the right to unleash a cross-shot that had Ross Flitney palming clear.

Dan Harding and Drury had shots deflected off target in quick succession in the 13th minute, but the game was half-an-hour old before Eastleigh had a clear sight of goal.

Jack Midson was released through the middle by Kaid Mohamed's flick but, with the home side forlornly looking for a linesman's flag, the visiting striker finished weakly into Sam Russell's gloves.

The hosts upped the tempo as the interval approached, with Clovis Kamdjo bursting forward to dispatch a strike that took a nick off Reid, before Flitney pushed it around his left upright.

Eastleigh's reprieve was short-lived, however. Lucas collected Ricky Shakes' low cross on the edge of the box, with the striker afforded the space to turn and lash a strike into Flitney's bottom left corner.

Mohamed was presented with a golden opportunity to level just after the hour mark, when he was slipped



LATE LEVELLER: Eastleigh's Andy Drury

through by Jai Reason's slide-rule pass. Russell, however, was quickly out to close the angle and block the Eastleigh man's low effort.

Mohamed was proving a real threat as the Spitfires pinned their hosts back. The Welshman's next attempt saw him collect the overlapping Joe Partington's cut-back from the right to hammer a shot that was goal-bound until it struck the arm of Scott Doe. The visitors' penalty appeals, however, fell on deaf ears.

Reason then had a curling effort from the left of the box hammed clear by Danny Woodards, with Russell beaten.

The home team were now at full-stretch to keep their opponents at bay. Russell gloved away Mohamed's fierce drive at the near-post, before Ben Nunn scrambled away the same Eastleigh man's menacing right-wing delivery.

Mohamed was the victim of a heavy Woodards challenge, which forced

Todd to send Lee Cook into the fray. The change would pay the ultimate dividend, however.

As the contest entered stoppage time Cook saw a ferocious volley diverted off target by Stephens.

Given the opportunity to send over a 92nd minute right-wing corner, though, Cook got his delivery spot on. The ball arrived into a melee of bodies, but it was Drury who arrived to apply the decisive touch and salvage a draw that sees the Spitfires

Home form is key, says Koscielny

LAURENT Koscielny believes the road to any Arsenal trophy success this season begins at home.

The defender will be looking to keep out reigning Barclays Premier League champions Chelsea on Sunday afternoon when the now-struggling Blues visit the Emirates Stadium.

And Koscielny thinks the Gunners' form in front of their own fans, including the visit of Saints on February 2, will be crucial if they are to maintain their challenges on three fronts.

A victory over Chelsea will almost certainly keep Arsenal top of the Premier League while their quest to win a third successive FA Cup sees them host Sky Bet Championship side Burnley next weekend.

Add to that a tantalising Champions League clash with Barcelona on the horizon and it amounts to exciting times for the club's supporters.

But, with a gruelling run of games away from home still to come in the league, Koscielny knows how important home success, including Sunday's visit of their London rivals, will be.

"If you want to win the Premier League, you need to win all your home games," he said.

"Our seven away games will be very difficult because we play against Man City, Man United, Tottenham, West Ham, Everton, so we need to do the job well at home so we have the points."

West Ham are the only Premier League team to leave the Emirates with three points so far this season, winning on the opening day of the campaign.

Since then Arsene Wenger has guided the Gunners to the top of the table and now, entering a crucial period of the season, Koscielny is right behind the adage of not getting too far ahead of himself.

"We take each game and we will see," he added.

"This weekend is an important game and next weekend too."

"In February, March, we will have Champions League so we need to take it game by game and that's it."

£10 off
Special Offer

Book before
29 February 2016



Buckingham Palace

Discover some of London's royal history
2 days from £125.00, 20 August, 9 & 19

September 2016

Visit Buckingham Palace in 2016 and you will see the magnificent State Rooms and also 'Fashioning a Reign' Exhibition, a celebration of Her Majesty's 90th birthday.

Highlights & inclusions

- Admission to Buckingham Palace and the 'Fashioning a Reign' Exhibition
- 'Royal London' sightseeing tour
- Visit to Royal Windsor
- One night's three-star bed and full buffet breakfast hotel accommodation in the Heathrow/Slough area
- Coach travel from the local area
- Escorted by a friendly tour manager

*Book by 29 February 2016. Please quote code 3MGKU9. £10 reduction is off the price shown above. Offer may be withdrawn at any time.

Reader Offer

Newmarket
Holidays

Advertiser



Call **0330 160 7751**

QUOTE
NCS

Visit **www.newmarket.travel/ncs11438**

These holidays are organised & operated by Newmarket Promotions Ltd. ABTA V787X. Subject to availability. Single supplements apply. Standard phone charges.

ABTA
Travel with confidence

Crossing the geographical boundaries

TOP French rugby union club Toulon have indicated their intention to apply for membership of England's Aviva Premiership.

Here, the Sports Pink looks at other instances in which teams and clubs have crossed geographical boundaries in the name of sport:

CRICKET:

In 1921, Glamorgan became the first Welsh county elected to what was then - and is still now - known as the English County Championship. They play under the auspices of the England and Wales Cricket Board, and Welsh players are automatically eligible to play for England. Some, notably the Welsh nationalist party Plaid Cymru, have long argued that Wales should follow the likes of Scotland and Ireland in establishing their own national cricket team.

FOOTBALL

Many clubs in Europe play in the leagues of other countries. Swansea, Cardiff and Newport have dispensation from the FA of Wales to continue to play in the Football League. Berwick play in the Scottish League for geographical reasons, and Derry City play in the Republic of Ireland for political reasons. Monaco play in France as the



Swansea have always played in the English League

principality does not have its own professional league, while leading clubs from Liechtenstein and San Marino play in Switzerland and Italy respectively.

RUGBY LEAGUE

French franchise Catalans Dragons were elected to Super League in 2006, beating competition from prospective clubs in Toulouse and Villeneuve. They became the first non-English club to reach the Challenge Cup final one year later. Previously, a franchise had existed in Paris, but it only lasted for two seasons. Four clubs from France, as well as two from Russia, take part in the Challenge Cup each year.

BASEBALL

The Toronto Blue Jays are currently the only Canadian Franchise in Major League Baseball. They were formed in 1977 and won back-to-back World Series titles in 1992 and 1993. They were not the first Canadian franchise - the Montreal Expos joined MLB in 1969.

HANDBALL

In 2007 British handball moved its entire squad and headquarters to Denmark in a bid to establish a team competitive enough to take part in the London 2012 Olympics. They got to 2012 and lost all their matches.

Humble beginnings

SAINTS have certainly signed a prolific scorer with the £4m capture of Charlie Austin.

Here, the Sports Pink looks back at his career — starting with Poole Town in the Sydenhams Wessex League eight years ago.

2008/09

In his first season with Poole Town, Austin blasted 46 league and cup goals in as many games as the Dolphins strolled to the Wessex League title.

He made his Wessex debut on Tuesday, August 12 against Brockenhurst at Tatnam and scored the only goal of the game.

In his second start, he scored again against Christchurch.

And in his third, he struck twice in a 6-0 victory over Bournemouth Poppies.

At the beginning of September, he netted his first Poole hat-trick - in a 6-3 home win over Newport.

Further trebles were recorded against Moneyfields and Brading as Poole ended the season with a mammoth 116 points - 15 more than runners-up VTFC (now Sholing).

Poole won 38 of their 42 games, drawing two and losing two - and the only two they lost were their last two matches when they had already clinched the title!

In all, Poole netted 144 league goals, with Austin providing 37 of them in just 38 starts plus two sub appearances.

He went on trial with AFC Bournemouth in the summer of 2009, but Cherries boss Eddie Howe was unable to sign the player due to a transfer embargo then imposed on the Dorset club who were in the fourth tier of English football at the time.

2009/10

Austin started the Wessex League season in explosive style, blitzing 18 goals in only 11 league and cup matches for Poole.

Fourteen of those strikes came in only eight league games.

Austin struck twice in wins against Hayling (7-1), Alresford (6-0) and Brockenhurst (5-0) before he signed off in real style.

In his last game for Poole, he belted five goals in a 6-1 romp at Moneyfields.

Such form could not be ignored by Football League clubs any longer, and Swindon swooped to sign him in September 2009.

He made an instant impact, scoring on his debut for the reserves.

He made four substitute appearances for the Robins before being handed his first start in a League 1 game at Carlisle on November 21.

Austin scored within three minutes of his maiden start in professional football, and that proved to be the only goal.

He also scored on his home debut against Huddersfield, and in his third start netted twice in a home win over Leyton Orient.

After failing to score in his fourth start, a 3-0 loss at Bristol Rovers,



Charlie Austin in FA Cup action for Poole against Barnstaple in 2008



Charlie Austin (hidden) scores Swindon's winner against Saints at The County Ground in September 2010

Austin then incredibly scored in nine of his next 11 appearances.

The goals never stopped coming.

Austin struck the only goal as Swindon won at Alan Pardew's Saints in March 2009, and he also scored the only goals in wins at Brighton and Hartlepool.

Swindon then went to high-flying Leeds United and scored again in a shock 3-0 victory.

He was to end his first season in the Football League with 20 third tier goals from just 29 starts plus four off the bench.

That was a remarkable record,

bearing in mind he did not make his first start until November 21.

Only a handful of players scored more in the third tier that season - a list headed by Saints' Rickie Lambert (30), Swindon colleague Billy Paynter (26), Leeds' Jermaine Beckford (25), Saints' Lee Barnard

GOT A STORY FOR US? EMAIL echosport@dailyecho.co.uk

for new Saints star



Charlie Austin scores for Burnley in the 2011/12 season



Charlie Austin scores for Queens Park Rangers against Bournemouth in December 2013

(24) and Norwich's Grant Holt (24). Austin's goals helped Swindon to the League 1 play-off final.

After starting the season playing for Poole Town against Laverstock & Ford in the Wessex League, Austin ended it at Wembley Stadium.

But there was to be no fairytale ending, with Millwall winning the

final 1-0.

Austin had scored in both legs of the semi final victory over Charlton.

He was on target in Swindon's first leg 2-1 win in Wiltshire, and then also scored in the penalty shoot-out at The Valley after Charlton had won the second leg 1-0.

2010/11

At the end of August, Austin helped Swindon dump holders Saints out of the JPT with a surprise 3-0 romp at St Mary's – scoring one of the goals.

The following month, he netted against Saints for the third time in

as many games – scoring the only goal at the County Ground in Dean Wilkins' last game as caretaker manager.

Austin suffered a collarbone injury while colliding with Saints keeper Kelvin Davis and was out of action for just over a month.

When he returned from injury, he scored in 16 – yes, sixteen! – of his next 19 league and cup games.

He had struck 12 League 1 goals in 20 starts, plus off on the bench, by the time he signed for Burnley in the January 2011 transfer window.

Austin was initially disappointed that Swindon had turned down an offer from Hull City.

"It would have been a good opportunity for me," he said at the time.

"At the moment all I can do is focus on playing for Swindon," added Austin.

"I am very grateful for Swindon giving me my chance. It's a great club and the fans are a different class.

"However, like any player I have the ambition to play at the highest level I can and for footballing reasons if opportunities come up over the coming weeks then I would hope we will be able sit down and look at it."

Not long after he had spoken those words, Swindon accepted an offer from Ipswich Town. But Austin was unable to agree personal terms.

In all, Austin netted 37 league and cup goals for Swindon in 58 starts plus seven off the bench.

And the man who signed him for the Clarets, less than a fortnight after taking over at Turf Moor?

Eddie Howe.

Another collarbone injury ended Austin's first season in Lancashire, though, after only four appearances for his new club.

2011/12

Austin scored his first goal for Burnley on the opening day of the 2011/12 Championship season.

He was to end his first full season with Burnley with 17 league and cup goals from 46 appearances.

Of those, 16 came in the league and only four players scored more in the second tier – Saints pair Rickie Lambert (27) and Billy Sharp (19) plus Ricardo Vaz Te (22 goals for Barnsley and West Ham) and Ross McCormack (18 goals for Leeds United).

The undoubted highlight was his first Football League hat-trick – which came in a 5-1 romp at Portsmouth's Fratton Park in March 2012.

Invariably, there was another goal against Saints – in a 1-1 draw at Turf Moor in October when Morgan Schneiderlin was on target for Saints.

2012/13

Austin began the Championship season in sensational style.

continued on page 12
He blasted 18 goals in his first 14

Italian bosses in top flight

PREMIER League strugglers Swansea this week appointed former Udinese boss Francesco Guidolin as their new head coach.

The 60-year-old is the ninth Italian to manage in the division – here, the Sports Pink looks at the other eight.

GIANLUCA VIALLI (Chelsea – February 1998-September 2000): The Premier League's first Italian boss, who became Chelsea player-manager after replacing the sacked Ruud Gullit and went on to guide the Blues to fourth, third and fifth-placed finishes, as well as the FA Cup, League Cup, Cup Winners' Cup and Super Cup.

He was sacked following an indifferent start to 2000-01.

ATTILIO LOMBARDO (Crystal Palace – March-April 1998): Another to be appointed as a player-manager, Lombardo very briefly took over the reins at Palace towards the end of the 1997-98 season – which concluded with the club bottom of the table.

CLAUDIO RANIERI (Chelsea – September 2000-May 2004, Leicester – July 2015-present): Vialli's replacement at Chelsea did not steer the club to any major trophies, but they did finish second in the Premier League and reach the Champions League semi-finals in his final season before he was sacked.

His Leicester side are this term's surprise package.

GIANFRANCO ZOLA (West Ham – September 2008-May 2010): A former team-mate of

Vialli at Chelsea, Zola took on his first role as a number one at West Ham and did well initially, with the team finishing ninth. But it was 17th a year later and



Francesco Guidolin he was subsequently sacked.

CARLO ANCELOTTI (Chelsea – June 2009-May 2011)

Also thrived in his first season, overseeing a Premier League and FA Cup double, only for second place a year on to lead to his sacking.

ROBERTO MANCINI (Manchester City – December 2009-May 2013): Another considerable success story – led City to their first major trophy since 1976 with the FA Cup in 2011, and the Premier League title was added the following term.

At the end of a 2012-13 season that saw the Blues finish second in the league and lose in the FA Cup final to Wigan, he was dismissed.

ROBERTO DI MATTEO (West Brom – August 2010-February 2011, Chelsea – March-November 2012)

Yet another ex-Chelsea player, who got West Brom promoted to the Premier League in 2009-10 but was relieved of his duties midway through the next season with Albion just above the relegation zone.

Then had a short but memorable stint in charge at Stamford Bridge after succeeding Andre Villas-Boas, guiding the Blues to Champions League and FA Cup glory before being axed soon after amid a poor run of form.

PAOLO DI CANIO (Sunderland – March-September 2013): The combustible former West Ham player came in at Sunderland as replacement for Martin O'Neill, ensured they won their fight to avoid relegation, and then lasted only five games of the following league campaign, being sacked with the Black Cats at the bottom of the table.

Goalscoring life of new Saint Charlie

from page 11

He blasted 18 goals in his first 14 league and cup appearances.

He plundered a hat-trick in a 5-2 home win over Peterborough in the league and another treble in a 3-3 draw with Sheffield Wednesday.

Austin then netted twice in a 4-3 win at Bristol City.

As a result of scoring those two goals at Ashton Gate, Austin equalled Ray Pointer's Clarets club record of scoring in eight consecutive appearances, which was achieved during the 1958-59 season.

Two weeks later, on November 6, Austin broke another Burnley record as he became the quickest-ever player to reach 20 goals in a season after scoring in a 1-0 win over Leeds United — his 17th appearance of the season.

The record was previously held by Bert Freeman, who scored 20 goals in his first 19 matches for the club during the 1911-12 season.

He also became only the second-ever Burnley player to score 20 goals before the end of November after Andy Lochhead, who reached 20 goals in 25 games on 26 November 1966.

Austin managed to get his goal tally up to 23 goals by the end of the calendar year.



Charlie Austin

He was to end the season with a 28-goal haul from 40 league and cup outings.

His 25-goal Championship total made him the third highest scorer in the division behind Palace's Glenn Murray and Blackburn's Jordan Rhodes.

2013/14

Austin moved from Turf Moor in the summer of 2013, which given his record the previous season was not a big surprise.

But it was a slight surprise that he was to move to another Championship club, Queens Park Rangers, rather than to a Premier League one.

Rangers boss Harry Redknapp would have been aware of Austin's goalscoring abilities from the player's time at Poole, with Redknapp living just down the road in Sandbanks.

Austin scored on his second outing for his new club, in a 2-0 League Cup win at Exeter City.

He was to end the season with 20 goals from 37 appearances as QPR won promotion to the Premier League via the play-offs.

After a 0-0 draw at Wigan in the first leg of the play-off final, Austin scored both goals as QPR progressed to Wembley with a 2-1 Loftus Road win.

Continued on facing page

Fans right to be exc

HE was linked with a £15m move last summer to either Newcastle or West Ham.

Leicester City had a £12m offer for him turned down flat, **writes SIMON CARTER.**

West Ham and Crystal Palace were reportedly also interested.

There was even speculation Liverpool were keen to make a move for the striker.

That was fuelled by the player posting a strangely-timed message on his Twitter feed.

The player wrote last May 'AC Milan v Liverpool 2005 what a night'.

What a night indeed, with Liverpool coming from 0-3 down at half-time to draw 3-3 and then winning a penalty shoot-out to be crowned kings of Europe for the fifth time.

But what was a Queens Park Rangers player doing writing that on social media, just a few weeks before the end of the 2014/15 season.

It was the random timing of the message that got Liverpool fans a little excited — could he be joining up with Brendan Rodgers' side in the summer?

In a word, no.

Charlie Austin never joined Liverpool.

He never joined Newcastle either, despite Alan Shearer inviting him on Twitter to follow in his footsteps on Tyneside.

He never joined West Ham, or Leicester, or Crystal Palace.

All those clubs might have been keen to sign him at some point.

All those might have been eager to prise him away from Queens Park Rangers.

But they didn't.

Southampton did, and for only £4m as well.

"Everybody gets excited when a big-money signing comes in, especially when it's a striker.

"They are hard to find at the moment.

"The one that springs to mind and has been touted is Charlie Austin.

"He scores goals and you know if you sign him and play him regularly, he will get you 15-plus goals a season, almost as a guarantee.

"That sort of signing might excite fans."

Those were the words of someone who knew the way to goal during his career — former Liverpool and England star Michael Owen.

Nothing 'might' about it, Michael. "That sort of signing" like Charlie Austin DOES excite fans, and rightly so.

In this day and age of big money signings, £4m is not a huge sum.

If Austin had arrived at St Mary's in January 2012, rather than four years later, he would have been Saints' second most expensive signing of all time.

Now he just about makes the top 20.

Here is a list of Saints signings since the club returned to the Premier League in 2012.

Dani Osvaldo, Gaston Ramirez,



Charlie Austin joins Saints. Pic: Southampton FC



Saints' new signing Charlie Austin poses for a selfie with a fan at St Mary's

Victor Wanyama, Shane Long, Sadio Mane, Ryan Bertrand, Virgil Van Dijk, Jordy Clasie, Fraser Forster, Dusan Tadic, Graziano Pelle, Dejan Lovren, Oriol Romeu, Florin Gardos, Jay Rodriguez, Juanmi and Cedric.

It is not a complete list, by any

means.

But it is a list of all the players who have cost the club over £4m.

In other words, cost the club more than Charlie Austin — the man who was the fourth highest scorer in the Premier League in 2014/15.

Austin's arrival makes it 18 —

EIGHTEEN! — £4m-plus Saints signings since the summer of 2012.

Nineteen, if you include Vegard Forren who it is believed cost £4m in 2013 but who never played a single competitive second for the club before returning to his native Norway.

GOT A STORY FOR US? EMAIL echosport@dailyecho.co.uk

ited by Austin deal



Charlie Austin celebrates scoring during the Premier League match against Saints at St Mary's



Young fans Frankie Carr and George Bennett celebrate the news of new signing Charlie Austin

Prior to signing Austin, Saints boss Ronald Koeman had talked about his side needing to be more "clinical" up front.

Saints did not struggle to create chances during their run of eight defeats in ten games, a run thankfully ended by two St Mary's wins against Watford and West Brom-

wich Albion in the space of four morale-boosting days.

They did not struggle to get shots in on goal either — recording 23 during the dismal draw with Aston Villa and 15 during the 1-0 loss to Stoke City.

This is where Austin comes in. Last season he scored his 18 top

flight goals at a rate of one every 7.27 attempts.

Is that good?

Well, Graziano Pelle scored his 12 Premier League goals at a rate of one every 10.25 attempts.

Last season Austin managed 131 efforts at goal — the second highest in the top flight behind only Sergio

Aguero (148). Pelle managed the third highest amount, 123.

Austin, though, managed eight more attempts at goal despite playing 215 fewer minutes than the Saints top scorer.

One main difference between the pair was their desire to shoot at goal from distance.

Austin tried his luck 55 times from outside the penalty area last season, compared to just 18 Pelle efforts.

Now the debate starts as to where Austin will fit into the Saints starting line-up.

Koeman has generally played Pelle as a lone striker during his time at St Mary's.

Will he now partner Pelle and Austin together?

Only the manager can answer that, though I would be surprised if he did.

Austin, to me, seems a ready-made replacement for Pelle if the Italian international was to be sold this summer.

Pelle will be in the final year of his Saints contract this summer, and a decent performance for his country at Euro 2016 could see him return to Serie A.

Pelle turns 31 this July, making him four years older than Saints' new striker — Austin celebrates his 27th birthday in the same month.

Austin's former QPR colleague, Joey Barton, has previously spoken about the work Austin was doing at Loftus Road to try and further improve his game.

"We talked a lot about how he can improve and a lot of it was about playing as a lone striker," Barton said last summer.

"I was talking to him and saying not many of the big teams play with two strikers, so you're going to have to get better at getting hold of the ball, setting and spinning.

"You remember the way Shearer used to do in the back end of his career — if the ball would come in he'd pin it and set it and then he'd spin and be in the box looking for his goals.

"Charlie has that capability to be able to do that.

"It's a part of his game he's working on because the goalscoring ability is natural — he's a natural goalscorer, he'll always score goals because he's got that knack."

Those words will be music to Saints' fans ears.

So will these.

"My record speaks for itself. Wherever I've been I've scored goals."

Those are the words which came tumbling out of Charlie Austin's mouth this week.

"I know what the Premier League's about from the one season I've been in. But I'm not taking anything for granted. Goals don't come if you don't work hard.

"Luckily that happened to me in the first year and I got the goals, so why can't it happen now?"

Why not indeed.

Austin knows where back of the net is ...

from facing page

2014/15

There were no doubt pundits who doubted whether a former Wessex League footballer would score goals in the Premier League. If there were, Austin silenced them in style.

He struck 18 goals, despite playing in a side that struggled for the entire season before being relegated.

Only three players scored more top flight goals in 2014/15 — Sergio Agueiro (25), Harry Kane (21) and Diego Costa (20).

Austin scored six more goals than Saints' highest Premier League scorer, 12-goal Graziano Pelle.

Highlights were a hat-trick in a 3-2 home win over West Bromwich Albion, and both goals in a 2-0 home victory over Aston Villa.

Austin was voted the Premier League's Player of the Month for December 2014, after five goals in as many games — including the treble against the Baggies (which came after QPR had trailed 2-0 early on).

He also scored in a 2-0 home victory over his former club, Burnley, but was then sent off for two bookable offences. That remains the only dismissal of Austin's 244-game professional league and cup career.



Charlie Austin signs for Saints

There was also yet another goal against Saints, Austin netting Rangers' consolation in a 2-1 loss at St Mary's — a game best remembered for Pelle's acrobatic winner.

He also showed he could score against the very best teams in the country, with strikes against Chelsea, Manchester City and Arsenal.

Austin won his maiden call-up to the senior England squad in May, but is still waiting to win his first cap for his country.

2015/16

Though Newcastle were interested in keeping Austin in the Premier League last summer, the player started the new season back in the Championship with QPR.

Austin, who was out of contract at the end of this season, left the club at the weekend having belted 10 goals in 16 appearances this term.

Seven of those goals came in his first eight league appearances of the season.

He has not played since the middle of December, when he scored twice in a 2-2 draw with Brighton.

Austin arrives at St Mary's having scored 118 league goals in 195 starts plus another 25 off the bench. Those goals have come at a rate of 0.53 per game, an enviable record indeed.

Life and times of new Saints striker Charlie Austin



Charlie Austin signs for Burnley — and Clarets boss Eddie Howe — in January 2011



Charlie Austin in action for Poole Town in 2008



Charlie Austin is stretchered off after injuring his shoulder against Saints in September 2010



Charlie Austin has just scored against Cherries in December 2013



Charlie Austin about to collide with Saints keeper Kelvin Davis in September 2010



Friends reunited — Charlie Austin and Jay Rodriguez celebrate a goal for Burnley in 2012

GOT A SPORTS STORY FOR US? EMAIL echosport@dailyecho.co.uk



Charlie Austin wheels away after scoring for Swindon against Charlton in 2010



Saints past and present – Franny Benali meets Charlie Austin at Loftus Road during his run to all 20 Premier League grounds for charity in September 2014



Charlie Austin with Cherries management team Eddie Howe and Jason Tindall



Charlie Austin signs for Saints last weekend. Pic: Southampton FC



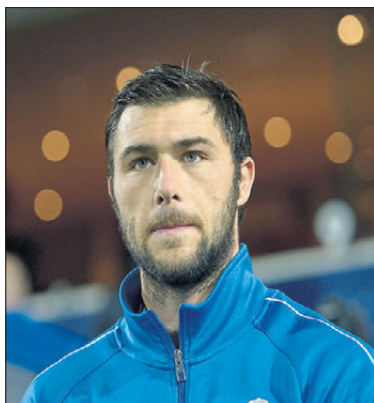
Swindon Town's Charlie Austin celebrates after beating Charlton Athletic on penalties in the second leg of the League 1 play-off final in 2010



Charlie Austin celebrates as Swindon reach the 2010 League 1 play-off final, where they lost 1-0 to Millwall at Wembley



Charlie Austin celebrates scoring against Aston Villa at Villa Park



SAINTS SPOTLIGHT

Poole in debt to goal ace Charlie

Dolphins helped to promotion by improving ground

WHEN Charlie Austin left Poole Town to join Swindon in 2009, a group of 16 fans went to a local bookies and placed a tidy sum on him scoring for the senior England side one day.

Jem Racing gave them 50-1 odds, fairly slim for a player who had just joined a League One side, and they handed over £155.

The group will bank £7,750 if Saints' new signing eventually scores for his country.

But Austin's value to Poole Town stretches beyond the sum of money the Dolphins fans might one day receive.

Money Poole earned from goals and appearances since Austin left almost six and a half years ago has enabled them to carry out work on their Tatnam ground.

Insulting

"Swindon didn't want to pay a fee, they didn't feel they had to, which was insulting," Poole commercial director Mark Bumford explained in 2014.

"They agreed a deal with add-ons for appearance and goal bonuses. He could've disappeared into their reserves, but soon started scoring goals and got into the first team."

At Poole, Austin and his teammates were playing home matches on a school field in the Wessex League — the ninth tier of English football.

They won the title in his debut campaign, 2008/09, and again the following year.

Ball rolling

Both times they were unable to climb a league due to their ground not being enclosed.

Oakdale South Road Middle School — now Oakdale Junior School — and Poole Borough Council would not allow them to improve it.

But the club credit Austin's goals for getting the ball rolling.

"After that the council and school allowed us to enclose it," Bumford said.

"Then we started receiving money from the add-ons for Charlie and it allowed us to finish work on the ground. We won the league a third season in a row and got promoted."



Tommy Killick pictured with his former Poole Town striker Charlie Austin

Poole built a stand, erected a barrier around the pitch, and installed floodlights.

In all, the club spent around £250,000 from Austin-related add-ons.

In a way, Poole were fortunate to sign Austin in the first place.

The player's father, Fred, and grandfather, Ozzy, wrote to several Dorset clubs when the family relocated to Bournemouth in the summer of 2008.

Austin had previously played for Kintbury and Hungerford, and the Austins contacted Poole and Wimborne — clubs at a similar level to those Charlie, then 19, had previously played for.

Wimborne never contacted them, while Poole did.

Tommy Killick was the Poole manager who gave Austin his Dolphins debut, and the man who is still boss at Tatnam has obviously followed the player's career with interest.

Speaking after Austin was called up by Roy Hodgson for the senior England squad last May, Killick said: "It is an unbelievable achieve-

ment.

"Everyone has doubted him at every stage of his career; partly because of where he's come from.

"Everyone felt there was a limit to how much progress he could make.

"But he has coped with each step he's made so well and I think he deserves all the recognition that comes his way.

"Having been named in the squad, I dearly hope he gets the opportunity to earn his first cap.

"I know Charlie is keen to be recognised for his achievements as a professional footballer and I think it is time that happened.

"It's not about forgetting where he's come from but more about the fact he deserves it.

Background

"He has been a Premier League footballer this season and in a struggling side has scored goals, so I don't think anyone can argue that he doesn't deserve the opportunity.

"Ignoring his background and being independent about it, for what he has done in the Premier League,

he deserves to be picked, that's the long and short of it.

"Poole Town has benefited enormously — both financially and in terms of the profile of the club — from Charlie's success and it's time to move away from that now and congratulate him for the achievement."

Hunger

Killick had previously spoken about Austin's obvious hunger to make it as a professional — even during his time with Poole.

Speaking back in December 2010, the former Wimborne striker said: "A lot of players released by League clubs resign themselves to playing non-League and just drift around. But Charlie had hunger and ambition and was fiercely motivated.

"Charlie went training with Bournemouth for several weeks for no pay when he was at Poole.

"He trained hard every day because he wanted to be a professional footballer and you could sense how determined he was to do well."

'Circus' to keep on

WEST Brom boss Tony Pulis insists the club have yet to receive a bid for striker Saido Berahino during the January transfer window.

Berahino's future has been uncertain since handing in a transfer request at the start of the season amid several rejected offers from Tottenham.

The rumours reignited when the 22-year-old was left out of the matchday squad at Bristol City for Tuesday night's FA Cup third round replay, before it was confirmed that he was missing through illness.

This week Spurs, along with Chelsea and Newcastle, were reported to have tabled bids but Pulis denied that such an approach had been made.

Pulis expects the speculation surrounding his joint-top goalscorer to continue until the transfer window closes on February 1.

"The present situation is the club has not received any offers at all so everything is speculation and you can't stop people talking," said Pulis at his pre-match press conference on Friday.

"I'm more disappointed for Saido. I told him at the beginning of the window the circus starts again.

"If something happens, something happens and he understands that from the last window.

"Unless he's sold now, tomorrow or the next two days it could go to the deadline — it's a good story."

Berahino has recovered from his bout of illness and will be back in contention against midlands neighbours Aston Villa at The Hawthorns.

"He's okay and fit," said Pulis. "He'll be okay. He had a tummy bug — a couple of the lads had it — obviously Rick [Lambert] missed a game from it.

"I couldn't involve him in the cup game which was a shame because I probably would have started him.

"But it's the window again and him on all the back pages. We play Villa in a massive game and we're not talking about the game."

Pulis described his squad as "threadbare" as injuries mount ahead of the clash.



Pulis and Berahino

Non league FOOTBALL



Harry Redknapp

Redknapp happy to be involved with Wimborne

HARRY Redknapp admits his association with Wimborne Town will have to be sporadic but reckons chairperson Paula Henley is capable of making her own mark.

The 68-year-old Sandbanks resident was announced as a new face on the Magpies board last week following Henley's shock return to the Southern One South & West strugglers.

But while Redknapp is content to advise and assist at Cuthbury, the former Cherries, Saints and Pompey boss re-

vealed his media and family commitments would prevent any kind of hands-on role.

"Paula asked if I could give her a bit of help. I am a football man and Wimborne Town is a local club so if I can help in any small way then I will do," he explained.

"I can't say that I will be involved on a daily basis because I am busy, but they are nice people there and if they ask me for a favour, of course I'll do my best to do it. I am just happy to help.

"Paula has a lot of drive, she wants to take the club forward and that is great.

"I certainly hope they can survive and push forward in the way she wants, it would be great.

"If I can pop over to a few games, I'll try to when I'm not watching Bournemouth play or working with BT Sport.

"I would like to see them succeed.

"It is a local club and a big part of the community in Wimborne so to see people getting behind the club would be great."

Jesse's at the double

BROCKENHURST and Team Solent are through to to the quarter-finals of the Sydneys Wessex League Cup.

Solent had a smooth passage through, brushing Alton Town aside 4-0 through Pip Nolan, Myles Keizer-Burrows and two-goal Jesse Waller-Lassen.

But it proved to be a long night for Brockenhurst who eventually beat Cowes Sports 4-3 after extra-time on the Island.

Cowes twice took the lead through John McKie and Aidan Bryan after Jordan Browne had wiped out Brock's opener.

But the Badgers rescued a late 3-3 draw after 90 minutes and went on to snatch the winner in the dying moments of extra-time.

Ryan Long hit a hat-trick for Brock, supported by a goal from Darryl Phillips.

Five clubs - Newport IOW, Sholing, Brockenhurst, Team Solent and Bemerton Heath Harlequins - are now safely through to the last eight.

Three other third round ties - Amesbury v Salisbury, Moneyfields v Portland Utd and Romsey Town v Totton & Eling - have still to be played.

I POOLE Town manager Tom Killick this week confirmed his interest in former Swindon Town and Eastleigh striker Ashan Holgate.

Currently a free agent having recently left Chippenham Town, Holgate held talks with Killick after watching Poole's 1-1 draw with King's Lynn last Saturday.

The 29-year-old progressed through the ranks at the County Ground and made 11 appearances for the Robins, including nine in League One.

He dropped into non-league with Weston-super-Mare in 2006 and had spells at Eastleigh, Newport County, Maidenhead and Oxford City before joining Chippenham in 2014.

Killick, whose side top the Southern Premier Division, explained: "Ashan is probably a month or so from fitness and is someone I have always been an admirer of. He will get to a point where his fitness is back and then we will see where we are."



Jesse Waller-Lassen

Sparsholt's delight for Adam

SPARSHOLT College is once again celebrating with news that Football Academy student Adam Grange has been selected for the England Schoolboys under-18 squad.

From thousands of trialists throughout the country, Grange - a former Portsmouth FC youngster - has made the final 18.

He will join the England Schoolboys training camp at Lilleshall National Training Centre later this month prior to a series of international matches.

News of his selection arrived the week of Grange's 17th birthday.

He lives on site at Sparsholt and the letter was sent straight to his home address in Bournemouth, from where his mum broke the glad tidings.

"She read the first line, which said it was with great pleasure you have been successful, and I knew I had made the final selection. I have to admit I was thrilled but speechless at the same time," the youngster smiled.

"Having been released by Portsmouth FC last summer, I had lost a lot of confidence, but Sparsholt Academy manager, Neil Benson and our coach Lewis Benson have installed a new belief in my ability.

"Without question in recent months I have become a more all-round player and I hope this will be the start of an experience that will help me fulfil my goal to become a professional player.

"Living on site allows me to enjoy all the fantastic facilities that Sparsholt offers. Aside from excellent training pitches, we have a brand new indoor sports facility incorporating gym and studio."

The England selectors have been monitoring Grange's performance since October, including a number of trials at county, regional, inter-regional and, latterly, national level. The last-64 and the last-32 selections were conducted at Lilleshall.

Grange is a first-year Football Academy student at Sparsholt College, near Winchester, on the Southampton FC Second Chance programme. He combines his football with studying on the BTEC National Diploma course of Sport and Performance.

The Southampton (Sparsholt) FC lads currently top the Conference Youth League which is played on Wednesday afternoons and compete



Adam Grange has been picked for the England Schoolboys under-18s

in a number of other cup competitions and showcase games.

Last year Sparsholt had two players selected to represent England - midfielder Charlie Gunson and goalkeeper Mark Childs.

Academy manager Neil Benson said: "We are extremely proud of Adam's achievement.

"He has worked hard on the training ground and is making good pro-

gress with Lewis, who works with him as part of a very talented squad.

"I hope this will act as a springboard both for Adam, our current lads and some of the potential new intake for next season who we are beginning to look at to show the fantastic opportunities we try and create at Sparsholt.

"I am sure, like Charlie and Mark last season, this experience will

prove invaluable for his all-round development on and off the pitch."

● For any school leavers looking to pursue an opportunity of joining the Academy there are a number of trial days coming up. Neil Benson should be contacted in the first instance on 07860 150075 or email neil.benson@sparsholt.ac.uk

Interstyle Bedrooms

Unit 2 Nightingale Grove Shirley, Southampton, SO15 3HQ

Freephone: 0500 501052 (24hrs) • t: 023 8033 6331

e: info@interstylebedrooms.com • w: www.interstylebedrooms.com



Established 32 years we are a small company that prides itself on manufacturing high quality bespoke bedroom furniture, studies, under the stairs storage space - made by our skilled cabinet makers to your requirements and specifications.

We confidently offer a
10 Year guarantee.

Why not come and visit our
Shirley showroom

Christmas Opening Hours
10am - 4pm

Tuesday 29th December

Wednesday 30th December

Thursday 31st December

2 Nightingale Grove, Shirley
Southampton SO15 3HQ

Telephone 023 80336331

info@interstylebedrooms.com

Free phone 0500 501052

www.interstylebedrooms.com



Luzborough House

Luzborough House, Luzborough Lane, Romsey, Hampshire SO51 9AA
01794 523816

Luzborough.romsey@greeneking.co.uk

What's on at the Luzborough this..... Winter/Spring

Mondays
£2.50 Pint Real ales
Pudding club all day*
Kids Eat free 3pm-5.30pm*
Tuesdays
Rock and roll bingo from 8.30pm
Pudding club all day*
Kids Eat free 3pm-5.30pm*
Wednesdays
Curry club all day*
Kids Eat free 3pm-5.30pm*

Thursdays
Kids Eat free 3pm-5.30pm*
Fridays
2 Glasses of Prosecco £5
Saturdays
Book your night out here
Birthdays and anniversaries
Sundays
Fabulous roasts from £9.79
Quiz Night 8pm £1 entry
per person

* Terms and conditions apply; offer can be withdrawn without prior notice. Manager's decision is final.
*Pudding club - Buy any meal off the main menu to receive your free dessert (not available with the value menu).
*Kids eat free - Kids main meal free with every adult meal purchased from the main menu.
*Excludes Bank Holidays, Mothers Day and Easter

Tell us what you think and enjoy a free dessert on us, just go online at
www.youoldenglishinns.co.uk
Location id: 7849

Coffee and Cake still only £2.95



Come and enjoy our large bouncy castle from 2pm till 7pm every Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday from February through till September**
** weather permitting



Are you a vegetarian?
Ask one of the team to show you one of our handheld blackboards. There is a wide range of dishes to choose from.

Don't forget our value menu is served Monday* to Friday from 11am - All day Great value!!!
Meals from only £4.99

Add a starter and or a dessert for £2.79
*excludes bank hols, mothers day and easter

Large walled garden and patio to the back of the Luz is its best kept secret....eating or drinking... enjoy the garden all day long....and don't forget the dog must be on a lead they are welcome to visit us.. all year round too!(inc.bar/snug area log fire)

25% off all the best in decorating*

Open day 30th January

Join us on 30th January at our Hedge End and Southampton store open day and receive 25% off everything and some amazing offers...

Hedge End:

Unit C, Phase B2 Hamilton Business Park, Manaton Way, Botley Road, SO30 2JR
Tel: 01489 789669

Southampton:

Unit 41 City Industrial Park, Southern Road, SO15 1HG
Tel: 0238 033 9977

- 25% off everything* – paint, accessories and more from decorating's best brands
- Free refreshments and giveaways for every customer who comes to see us
- Collect Nectar points on each transaction
- Plus FREE next day delivery**

So don't miss out!

duluxdecoratorcentre.co.uk

@DuluxDecCentre | duluxdecoratorcentre



*Discount is off shelf edge price ex. VAT. Not available on account terms, cash sales only. Products must be paid for at the time of purchase. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offers or promotions. Terms and exclusions apply. See in-store or online at duluxdecoratorcentre.co.uk for details. Offer available 30th January 2016 in Hedge End and Southampton stores only. **Terms and conditions apply. See in-store for details

Dulux DECORATOR CENTRE

AkzoNobel

ENTERPRISE ROOFING LTD

We are approved contractors to University of Southampton and PFP.

Enterprise Roofing Ltd. are a family run business with over 30 years' experience in all aspects of roofing. Taking pride in our work is first and foremost in each and every project. We realise having your roof replaced can be intrusive so we try and make our stay as smooth as possible, keeping both residential and commercial customers up to date with progress. Keeping the site safe and clean is a priority.

We endeavour to keep to the work schedule set out and aim to achieve our targets, even with the British weather! Our operatives are all health and safety trained and we are CHAS Accredited (Construction Health and Safety) and supported with 10 to 25 year insurance backed guarantees plus £10 million Public and Employers insurance.



SPECIAL OFFER

FREE UPVC FASCIAS AND GUTTERING WITH THE FIRST 10 RE-ROOF ORDERS ACCEPTED
Subject to T & C's

WE SPECIALISE IN RE-ROOFING DOMESTIC PROPERTIES CHIMNEY RE-BUILDS AND CAVITY LEAD TRAYS INSTALLED

Redbridge Business Park, Old Redbridge Road, Southampton, SO15 0NN

Tel: 023 8051 1123 | 023 8066 8808

Mob: 07872147884

email: martin@enterprise-roofing.co.uk

www.enterprise-roofing.co.uk

Non league FOOTBALL



Bemerton fans urged to turn out in big numbers for derby clash

BEMERTON Heath Harlequins are urging fans to turn out in their droves when Sydenhams Premier leaders Salisbury visit over the Easter period.

Graham Kemp's side, who will entertain Whites in a rearranged clash at Western Way on Bank Holiday Monday (March 28), are promoting a

special offer.

Fans who watch 'Quins in any of the three home matches prior to the Whites - including Fawley AFC (March 5), Bournemouth Poppies (March 8) and Moneyfields (March 19) - will receive a discount voucher at each.

Those who attend all three match-

es and present their three vouchers at the turnstile on derby day will see the game for half price.

If just one or two vouchers are shown, fans will still receive a discount on admission.

Calum Brockway and Sam Wilson (2) put Whites ahead before Sam Griffin hit a late consolation for Be-

merton.

*A first-half header from Jack Lovell was enough to secure a 1-0 win for Bemerton over Whitchurch last weekend.

New signing Adam Costello appeared in the clash having followed former Wimborne Town teammate Sam Griffin to Western Way.

Williams' goal aim

EX-EASTLEIGH striker Brett Williams has set himself a double-figure target to fire Forest Green Rovers into the Football League.

After initially joining Rovers on loan, the 28-year-old from Hedge End, Southampton, has penned a contract until the end of the season after his deal at Stevenage was terminated.

Second-placed Forest Green took advantage of their rivals being in FA Trophy action last weekend to move to within two points of National League leaders Cheltenham with a 1-0 win at Lincoln City.

Williams went on as an 85th-minute sub in that game - and frontline competition has just got even hotter at The New Lawn following the midweek arrival of former Yeovil frontman Kieffer Moore.

Having hit 39 goals in 89 league appearances over two years with Aldershot Town, Williams is confident he has a big part to play in getting the Gloucestershire club promoted.

"We've definitely got the squad, that's one of the reasons I wanted to come here to be part of that," he said.

Talks over a permanent move to FGR initially broke down and, although Williams did not end up missing a game, he was unable to train with Rovers for two weeks - hence he only made the bench for the Lincoln win after the deal had eventually gone through the night before.

Stevenage had wanted a fee, but the loan switch of Aaron O'Connor in the other direction got things going again.

"It's key for me now to get my fitness back, get in the side and help us get promotion," said Williams, who played for Winchester City and AFC Totton before getting his Football League break with Reading from Eastleigh in 2011.

"I want to hit double figures at least and, if I can do more, that's what I'll be aiming for," he added.



Brett Williams, left

Cole comes through tough debut by holding leaders

TIM Cole marked his return to management by prising a rare point off Sydenhams One leaders Portland United last weekend.

Having spent a year out of the game, the former Alresford and Winchester City boss could not have asked for a more challenging debut in the AFC Stoneham dugout.

Portland arrived at The Elliotts Arena having lost only one of 15 league matches since returning the Wessex ranks from the Dorset Premier League.

Stoneham were without suspended defender Matty Palmer, while Dave Philpott was unavailable, but Cole boosted his squad with two new signings, Michael McEnery and Chris Manning, who both served him well at Alresford.

Portland led by an early Ross Doidge penalty, but Stoneham's outstanding keeper Sam Whieldon warded off any further damage with a string of fine saves and clearances.

Whieldon, though, had a lucky escape when he clearly handled outside his area and, following a flag from the assistant, the referee brought play to a halt just as Portland had tucked the ball into the net.

A free kick was awarded and Whieldon booked, much to the anger of the visiting players who got neither a goal nor a red card for the opposition.

Stoneham upped their game after the break and, with their high work rate taking its toll, Cole sent on the fresh legs of Terry New and Sergio Caballero with 72 minutes gone.

Two minutes later, Caballero's shot from distance proved too hot for Portland keeper Sean Lillington and Ben Clarke was on hand to level.

United piled on the pressure in the latter stages and were unlucky not to find a winner.

Adam Linaker had an effort ruled out for offside, Lewis Whyton saw his header cleared off the line and then another Linaker shot hit the post.

Though disappointed with the penalty award against his new charges, Cole would not have been too outraged if the referee had given Portland's disallowed goal - albeit he was quietly happy the referee had ruled it out with a quick whistle rather than waiting to see where the ball would end up.

Portland boss Gary Bailey felt the



New AFC Stoneham boss Tim Cole

controversial incident was pivotal to the outcome of the game.

"The ball was knocked over the top and their keeper came out to claim it but handled outside the area," he said.

"It dropped to Carl McClements and he knocked it into the net, but as the ball went over the line the referee blew his whistle after the linesman flagged.

"Why he didn't wait two or three seconds longer, I don't know.

"You either let the play go on and

allow the goal to stand or it is deliberate handball for stopping a goalscoring opportunity and a red card.

"To rub salt into the wound the keeper saved the resulting free kick and we felt hard done by.

"We didn't want to see the keeper sent off, we wanted the goal, so it was very frustrating."

Bailey added: "The pitch was borderline unplayable and I couldn't fault my boys for their application and attitude.

"And fair play to Stoneham, they

stuck at it."

Portland returned to winning ways on Tuesday, defeating Downton 5-0 at Grove Road. Goals from Ross Carmichael, Doidge, McClements, Ryan McKechnie and Ashley Smith sent them six points clear at the top.

It's been a miserable start to 2016 for Downton who went down 1-0 at Romsey Town last Saturday - a Craig Stanley strike separating the sides.

Romsey, the only team to defeat Portland in the league this season, were due to visit the leaders today.

Non league FOOTBALL



Paul Masters

Benham quality helps City boss Paul enjoy a happy birthday

WINCHESTER City overcame a heavy pitch and a physical Mangotsfield United side to move back up to third in the Southern One South & West last Saturday.

Paul Masters wasn't exactly turning cartwheels after the 2-1 Denplan City Ground victory, admitting it was "not the best."

But the three points were a welcome birthday present for the City boss - as was the quality of the 48th-minute winner from former Saints

and Brighton & Hove Albion academy midfielder Matt Benham.

The youngster found the bottom corner with a hard, low shot from the right, repaying the faith Masters has shown in him since his August arrival from Gosport.

"I knew it would take a while to get Matt used to the way we play but we've bedded him in slowly and he's starting to show his quality," said the boss.

"He's a proper footballer, he sees

things early, his first touch is good and he passes the ball well. He's got a good future."

Winchester were without unwell midfielder Adam 'Taz' Roberts, while Folland Sports kindly allowed ex-City favourite Ross Casey to fill in for injured goalkeeper Brendan Norris.

They made a sluggish start and conceded a soft headed goal by Luke Bryan with 24 minutes gone - the last thing they needed having lost their previous two league games.

But an equaliser soon materialised when, after good play from Warren Bentley and Dom Cope, expectant dad Charlie Smeeton struck from close range.

Benham's master stroke put them in the ascendancy and Rickie Scott didn't help the Mangos' cause when he was sent off for a rash tackle on Jamie Barron.

"We weren't very good in the first half, but we showed our character in the second half," summed up Masters.

Oxlade-Chamberlain signs on for Wimborne Town!

Alex's brother among a trio of young loanees

WIMBORNE Town have signed the brother of Arsenal and England's former Saints star Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain.

Seventeen-year-old midfielder Christian Oxlade-Chamberlain is among a trio of young loan signings to have arrived at Cuthbury from SkyBet League Two outfit Portsmouth.

Magpies boss Simon Browne has also welcomed 17-year-old winger Kaleem Haitham into the ranks along with 18-year-old striker Brandon Joseph-Buadi.

He sealed the deals after speaking to Pompey youth team coach Mikey Harris, who he met while in charge of Salisbury reserves.

Oxlade-Chamberlain and Haitham both made their debuts in last Saturday's contentious 1-0 home defeat by Evesham United in the Southern One South & West, but Joseph-Buadi was ruled out by a minor knee problem.

Reflecting on the recruitment of Oxlade-Chamberlain, whose father Mark — also an England international — played professionally for Portsmouth, Sheffield Wednesday and Stoke, Browne said: "Hopefully, a bit of the family magic has rubbed off on him.

"In an ideal world all three players will do really well and I will speak to Mikey and the loans will be extended.

"We might even get another one or two players to come along as Mikey is keen to give some of his better lads more experience."

All three youngsters made their professional debuts in Pompey's 2-0 Johnstone's Paint Trophy defeat at Exeter in September. Joseph-Buadi started the game while Oxlade-Chamberlain and Haitham went on as second-half substitutes.

Meanwhile, Browne was left to rue the thin line between success and failure against Evesham.

Having fallen behind early to a Lewis Binns goal, they thought they



Wimborne Town manager Simon Browne

had equalised when Mark Ford's shot appeared to be blocked behind the line by the visitors' former Salisbury 'keeper Kevin Sawyer, but the 'goal' was not given.

The controversy came just four days after the Wimborne camp had insisted a Totton effort had not

crossed the line in a 5-2 defeat by the Stags, but their pleas were again unsuccessful.

"We were on the wrong end of a poor decision on Tuesday and then on Saturday we had what we thought was a perfectly good goal chalked off," rued Browne.

On the plus side, the Magpies boss was impressed by new recruits Oxlade-Chamberlain and Haitham.

"They got better and better as the game went on," he said. "Christian showed some really nice touches and made a couple of surging runs. I think he is going to be an asset."

Aimson's 'potential'

FORMER Eastleigh defender Will Aimson has joined Blackpool on a permanent basis after a successful loan spell with the SkyBet League One side.

The 21-year-old joined the Tangerines on loan from Hull City in November to help cover for a spate of defensive injuries at Bloomfield Road - a deal that was extended into the new year.

He made a difficult debut for the Seasiders in their Johnstone's Paint Trophy defeat at Wigan, but has been a regular of late - as either a defender or a holding midfielder - and was part of the side that crushed Scunthorpe 5-0 last Saturday.

Aimson has agreed a two-and-a-half-year deal with Blackpool with the option of a further 12 months.

Blackpool boss Neil McDonald said: "We've worked hard behind the scenes to secure his signature for the long-term and I'm delighted the deal is now done.

"He's a good, young defender with lots of potential and we'll try and get that potential out of him as much as we possibly can."

Aimson, who hails from Christchurch, began his career at Eastleigh and joined Hull, aged 17, after impressing on trial.

He spent time on loan at Tamworth before beginning a spell with Tranmere Rovers in November 2014.

But, having made his Football League debut against Southend United at Prenton Park, he broke his tibia and fibula playing against Portsmouth a week later.



Will Aimson

SOUTHERN
Daily Echo

FIND THE BALL



THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT

£20,000

or £1,000 nearest miss prize...

PLUS 70 consolation prizes of £15 each week**20 for Southern Daily Echo
20 for Daily Echo Bournemouth
10 for Dorset Echo
10 for Sunday Independent
10 for Brighton Argus**

FIND THE BALL is a test of skill and football knowledge and is open to readers of the Southampton, Bournemouth, Dorset Echos, Brighton Argus and Sunday Independent, Plymouth.

You have to use your skill and judgement to determine the exact centre of the ball.

Mark an X with a ballpoint pen on the picture where you consider that position to be—clear rubber stamps and self adhesive labels will also be accepted.

Every coupon will be carefully examined and the jackpot prize will be paid to the entrant whose cross marks the exact centre of the ball when the photograph was taken.

If the Jackpot is not won, £1,000 will be added to next week's jackpot.

The nearest-miss prize of £1,000 will be paid out each week to the

competitor whose cross is nearest to the centre of the ball when there is no jackpot winner.

When a jackpot has been won the next week's prize reverts back to £5,000 and the nearest-miss prize stays at £1,000.

If the Jackpot is not won after 46 weeks, when standing at £50,000, the nearest miss prize of £1,000 will be paid out and the jackpot will remain at £50,000 each week until there is a jackpot winner, then the jackpot starts again at £5,000, with the nearest miss prize remaining at £1,000 each week.

If there is more than one winner the jackpot will be shared and, similarly, if there is more than one runner-up the nearest miss prize will also be shared.

RESULTS

**CLOSING DATE FOR POSTAL ENTRIES**
Thursday
9am,
28 January, 2016Names of winners will be published on
Saturday, 30 January or Sunday 31 January 2016

An incident in a Brockenhurst v Barnet match

Winners

Competition number **S02**

JACKPOT WINNER NO WINNER

CONGRATULATIONS

P Gray Nr Blandford, Dorset

who wins the nearest miss prize of £1,000

The following competitors each receive a consolation prize of £15

B Baker	Southampton, Hants	D Forder	Southampton, Hants
J Baker	Southampton, Hants	M Godwin	Southampton, Hants
P Balcombe	Southampton, Hants	K James	Southampton, Hants
G Blandshard	Southampton, Hants	B Lawrence	Southampton, Hants
J Brown	Southampton, Hants	M Matthews	Berkshire
J Carvell	Eastleigh, Hants	T Murphy	Fareham, Hants
E Cobbold	Southampton, Hants	M Ottoway	Romsey, Hants
W Cox	Fareham, Hants	M Petherick	Eastleigh, Hants
D Elliott	Southampton, Hants	J Richards	Southampton, Hants
D Fisher	Eastleigh, Hants	D Rogers	Hants

Rules

1. You are allowed a minimum of 60 crosses and a maximum of 450 per coupon. Coupons with 451 or more will be disqualified. Entries altered defaced or mutilated will be invalid. Crosses must be distinct and separate. 2. Competitors may submit as many coupons as they wish. Members of a family can send their entries in one envelope with a covering postal order or cheque. 3. No responsibility can be accepted for entries delayed, lost or mislaid. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. 4. Payment may be made by postal order or cheque for the correct amount payable to Newsquest, and crossed 'S Co.' Stamps **will not** be accepted in payment. 5. A competitor cannot win more than one share of the prize money across all titles each week. 6. The Editor's decision on winning entry or entries and matters relating to this competition is binding in honour only. NO CORRESPONDENCE CAN BE ENTERED INTO. 7. Employees of NEWSQUEST Media Group and subsidiary companies and members of their families are not eligible to enter the competition. 8. Address entries to FTB, Newspaper House, Test Lane, Southampton, SO16 9JX in a sealed envelope. Understamped entries are not accepted. 9. Prize monies are held for and on behalf of winners. 10. Do not send cash in the post. 11. Winners will be required to participate in publicity. 12. Photocopies not accepted. 13. For rules go to www.dailyecho.co.uk/promotions/rules. 14. If you pay by cheque your prize money will be paid to you once cheque has cleared.

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE ONLY



Please use black/blue ink and capitals

TITLE ☐ MR ☐ MRS ☐ MISS ☐ MS

FIRST NAME

SURNAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

DAYTIME
TELEPHONE

I enclose cash/cheque/postal order Value £'s

On what day(s) do you purchase the Daily Echo?

☐ MON ☐ TUE ☐ WED ☐ THURS ☐ FRI ☐ SAT

Do you have the paper home delivered?

☐ YES ☐ NO**23 January 2016**

Please cross box

60 CROSSES **£1****125 CROSSES** **£2****200 CROSSES** **£3****325 CROSSES** **£4****450 CROSSES** **£5**

SAVE POSTAGE

For your convenience coupons may be posted in our **FIND THE BALL** collecting boxes located at selected newsagents and all branch officesDeadlines for branch office collection boxes are as follows:
Bournemouth Echo
12 noon Tuesday
Southern Daily Echo
12 noon Tuesday
Dorset Echo
Closing time MondayDeadlines for selected newsagents collection boxes as listed in:
Bournemouth Echo
closing time Monday
Southern Daily Echo
10.00 am Tuesday
Dorset Echo
Closing time Monday

A list of participating newsagents will be published in the Echoes on the first Saturday of each month

CASH PRIZE EVERY WEEKPlease complete entry form and send to:
FTB Newspaper House, Test Lane, Southampton SO16 9JX
Cheques payable to newsquest**Daily Echo**



The frozen Ray Mac pitch in midweek

Claridge backs call off

STEVE Claridge said officials made the "right decision" to postpone Salisbury's midweek clash with Moneyfields due to a "dangerous" pitch.

Whites had been hoping to stretch their lead to six points at the top of Sydenhams Premier Division, but the match was called off an hour before kick-off.

A temperature of minus 3C froze the Ray Mac pitch, meaning the game will add to Whites' backlog of fixtures. For the next five weeks, the Wessex League/FA Vase double chas-

es have matches on a Saturday followed by one in the week.

But Claridge insisted the fixture congestion was better than one of his players getting injured on the icy surface on Tuesday.

"It was the right decision," he said. "Never in a million years should the game have been played. It's dangerous."

● Salisbury have been drawn against Western League Division 1 side Corsham in the semi-finals of the Wiltshire Senior Cup.

Salisbury the only Wessex Leaguers in Vase

THE Sydenhams League's FA Vase hopes now rest solely with Salisbury after Moneyfields and Newport IoW lost their delayed fourth round ties.

Moneys finished with just eight men in a 2-0 home defeat by Western League high-fliers Bristol Manor Farm having had Jake Morgan, Jack Lee and Tyler Giddings sent off in a feisty encounter at Dover Road.

Morgan was sent off midway through the first half for reckless challenge, but he has also been accused of pushing the referee on the shoulder after the incident.

The 32-year-old has been put under immediate general suspension by Hampshire FA pending a disciplinary enquiry.

Romped

If found guilty, he could face a six-month ban and a hefty fine, effectively ending his season.

Newport's tie against Ashford United went to extra-time at St George's Park where a 118th-minute winner from one-time Eastleigh winger Ellis Green settled the matter 2-1 in the Kent visitors' favour.

Darren Powell had given the Islanders a seventh-minute lead, but Shaun Welford levelled two minutes later.

The Isle of Wight outfit had Will Quigley dismissed late on.

Salisbury, who had romped through 3-0 at AFC Dunstable the previous Sunday to make the last 16, now travel to Nuneaton Griff in the fifth round on January 30.

Steve Claridge's men will be looking to follow in the footsteps of previous Wessex Vase winners Wimborne Town (1992), Winchester City (2004) and Sholing (2014). AFC Totton made the Wembley final in 2007, losing out to Truro City.

Richard Taunton's find gold blend to go clear at the top

RICHARD Taunton's can be very satisfied with their season so far.

They sit top of the Hampshire Colleges B Division, with 22 points from 24 and a handy six points separating them from Poole Grammar in second place, *writes MIKE VIMPANY.*

It's just what coach Tom Barge would've wanted. In a squad that has rarely changed throughout the season – just 16 players having featured throughout – RTC have found the perfect blend between defensive solidity and attacking prowess, writes Freddie Molyneux.

The goalkeeping position has been shared by Dan Acuna and Jake Graham, who both been excellent at producing vital saves at crucial moments in matches.

The new centre back combination, led by Freddie Molyneux, have been steadily improving as they acclimatise themselves to each other's games.

Marauding

Marauding full-backs Jake Boon and Meelad Aslami supply danger in attack (notching themselves four assists between them) whilst remaining defensively sound.

Captain James Ferrier supplies the engine in the centre of the park and is joined by Hampshire's Dylan Gain who possesses an incredible passing range.

They are flanked by Elliot Mitchell



Richard Taunton. Standing (from left): Freddie Molyneux, Callum Fitze, Shay Hollinsworth, Meelad Aslami, Jake Graham, Luke Bergg, Thomas Ladbury. Front: Malik Gray, Dylan Gain, James Ferrier, Jake Boon, Elliot Mitchell-Lee.

Lee and Tom Ladbury, who both offer blistering pace and an excellent eye for goal with 10 goals and nine assists between them so far.

But RTC's joint highest goal-scorers (nine each) are Shay Hollingsworth and Callum Fitzheweswell, who have formed a telling partnership this season.

It's not been completely plain sail-

ing for RTC though as they crashed out of the Peter Munro Cup to Queen Mary's College, losing 5-1

Healthy lead

They then only drew with second placed Portsmouth, their first dropped points in the league, but they still came into Christmas with

a healthy lead over their opponents.

With just six games left to play, Tauntons can be very optimistic about claiming the title and may even have ambitions to go the whole season unbeaten.

This week's visit to Bournemouth was frozen off, leaving Taunton's visit to Poole Grammar a probable title decider.

Itchen closing in after winning 6-0 on artificial surface

ITCHEN have trimmed Peter Symonds' lead at the Hampshire Sixth Form Colleges summit with an easy 6-0 win over South Downs on the artificial 3G Portsdown surface.

But having lost twice already to the Winchester college this season, PSC remain favourites to end Itchen's seven-year domination of the title.

Itchen dominated the play at South Downs, but didn't convert many of the numerous chances they created, *writes Mike Vimpany.*

They led 2-0 at the break through Sam Steel and Jack Burrows, but with South Downs getting men back behind the ball Itchen found it difficult to stretch their lead.

Steel added the third but with a hat-

trick on offer decided to Ellis Roy, who bungled the chance from a yard out!

Jack Burrows, Jake Willis Delli-more and Sam Woodward were more accurate later in the game.

Misfortune

Peter Symonds' had their scheduled visit to Sparsholt called off due to a frozen pitch – the same misfortune befalling several B Division matches.

PSC lie seven points behind Itchen and Barton Peveril, who tonked Queen Mary's 7-3 with goals by Josh Clark (2), Matt Brewer, Lewis Wild, Sam Morris, Jamie Clark and Ed Ditchburn.

It wasn't a good omen for QMC, who visit Farnborough in the first of the Peter Munro Cup semi-finals on Wednesday.

Brockenhurst's long delayed quarter-final tie with Itchen, due to have been played yesterday FRI, has been rearranged for Wednesday – again in the soggy New Forest.

Brock's Rhys Newman will sit out the tie having picked a three-match ban and a hefty fine after being sent off before Christmas at Farnborough.

In the B Division, Poole Grammar have dropped a double hint to Richard Tauntons that the title race is far from done and dusted.

They beat near neighbours Bourne-

mouth 3-0 in the Dorset derby – Tom Smith, Alex DiMarco and Tom Fisk were on target – and smashed St Vincent 5-1 with Smith getting four of them.

Pencil in Gravel Hill on February 10 for the potential title decider.

Wednesday's fixtures – Peter Munro Cup: Brockenhurst v Itchen, Farnborough v Queen Mary's.

Colleges A Division: Barton Peveril v South Downs, Peter Symonds v Andover.

B Division: Chichester v Bournemouth, Richard Taunton v Alton, St Vincent v Havant.



Former Eastleigh player Ellis Green

SALE NOW ON



We're
moving our
Beds display
into our main
showroom at
33-35
Victoria Rd

BIG REDUCTIONS ON CORNER UNITS



HALF PRICE 3 PIECE SUITES
ELECTRIC RECLINERS REDUCED
BEDS from only **£249** (4'6" Divan)
3' MATTRESSES from only **£69.99**



Huge range of GIFTS and
candles by Colonial and Village
Scatter Cushions from £10
Ornaments for every occasion
Lighting and so much more...

**FREE PARKING
IN WOOLSTON**

Credit available subject to status - full details on request

33-35 Victoria Road, Woolston, Southampton SO19 9DY
sales@pont-furnishings.co.uk

T: 023 8044 0303



Open 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday

www.pont-furnishings.co.uk

PONT
FURNISHINGS

Pont Furnishings is a family run business

Suites • Recliners • Beds & Bedding • Reupholstery • Carpets • Curtains • Lighting • Colonial & Village Candles

Feed Body & Soul


Luxury Guernsey breaks from just £185pp*

Book a stay before the 31st March 2016 and receive £50 dining credit to spend during your stay. Quote GRAZE16.

▶ 0800 316 0314 or email
 ▶ book@fermainvalley.com

www.fermainvalley.com

*Please view the website for full terms and conditions.





The Dolphin

@ St Denys

30 Osborne Road South, St Denys, S017 2EZ

Burns Night

Monday 25th January

Special Burns Night Menu

£25 Per Person

Choice of Starters
4 options on Main Course &
3 Deserts including a free
glass of 175ml wine

Please Book in Advance



Monday - Weds
 12.30am to 00.30am
 Kitchen open to 9.30pm
 Thursday - Friday - Saturday
 10am to 00.30am
 Kitchen open to 10pm
 Sunday -
 11.00am - 00.30am
 Kitchen open to 9.00pm



www.thedolphinpubstdenys.co.uk



PRINCESS CRUISES
come back new™

THE NEW YEAR SAIL

SPAIN & PORTUGAL - 7 NIGHTS SAILING FROM SOUTHAMPTON

Sailing on board Emerald Princess
Departing 16 April 2016

Sail from Southampton ▶ Vigo, Spain ▶ Lisbon, Portugal ▶
La Rochelle, France ▶ St. Peter Port, Guernsey ▶ Southampton



INTERIOR FROM	£499 ^{pp}
OCEANVIEW FROM	£599 ^{pp}
BALCONY FROM	£599 ^{pp}





FORMERLY BATH TRAVEL

Visit your Hays Travel branch
Call 0800 044 3402 | haystravel.co.uk/cruise
 THE UK'S LARGEST INDEPENDENT TRAVEL AGENT

Picture special: Bolton 3 Eastleigh 2 — FA Cup



Eastleigh fans in good voice at The Macron Stadium



Eastleigh players applaud their supporters after the final whistle



Come on you Spitfires — Eastleigh fans at Bolton



Visiting fans had to wrap up warm on a chilly Lancashire night



One Eastleigh fan stood out from the rest ...



Up for the cup — Eastleigh fans in good spirits at Bolton

GOT A SPORTS STORY FOR US? EMAIL echosport@dailyecho.co.uk



Smile please! These Eastleigh fans are in high spirits prior to the cup tie



Blue is the colour for these two supporters



Eastleigh fans pictured before the game



Orange is the colour for this high-spirited Eastleigh supporter



Eastleigh fans pictured before the game



A sea of blue and white — Eastleigh fans outside The Macron Stadium



Eastleigh fans pictured before the FA Cup replay



Singing up for the Spitfires

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH LOCAL SPORT ONLINE AT dailyecho.co.uk

Picture special: Bolton 3 Eastleigh 2 — FA Cup



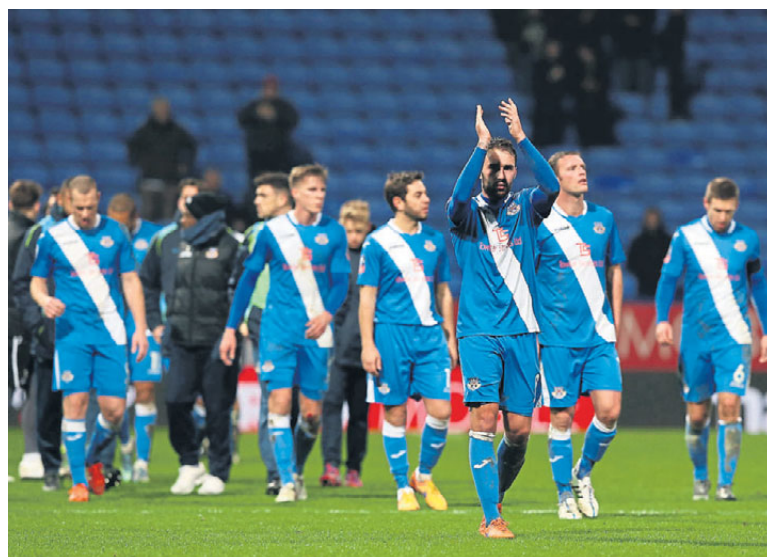
Joe Partington puts Eastleigh ahead with a great shot



Head in hands time as Bolton score



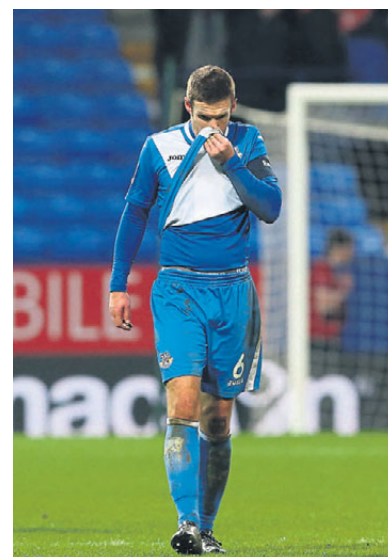
Bolton's Darren Pratley (third from right) celebrates scoring the winner



Thanks for your support — Eastleigh players clap the travelling Spitfires



Feeling down — James Constable, right



Feeling down - Paul Reid after the final whistle.

GOT A SPORTS STORY FOR US? EMAIL echosport@dailyecho.co.uk



Feeling blue — one Eastleigh fan contemplates his side's FA Cup exit



One of the Eastleigh mascots shows off her ball control.



Flying the flag



Bolton keeper Paul Rachubka can't stop Joe Partington's shot putting Eastleigh ahead



Another view of Joe Partington's shot that gave Eastleigh a shock lead



Kaid Mohamed wheels away after firing Eastleigh's equaliser



Eastleigh celebrate taking a shock lead at The Macron Stadium



Kaid Mohamed keeps his cool to slot home Eastleigh's second goal at Bolton

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH LOCAL SPORT ONLINE AT dailyecho.co.uk

Alex leads the way by being lovely glovely

MANCHESTER City felt the chill more than most on a weekend when the cold snap was not enough to persuade Newcastle or Liverpool's players to don gloves.

Five of City's starting XI in the 4-0 win over Crystal Palace wore gloves, more than any other team in the Premier League over the course of the last round of fixtures.

Newcastle and Liverpool toughed it out without any gloves at all as temperatures — particularly in northern England — plummeted.

In total, 31 Premier League starters over the weekend wore gloves, including just three Englishmen — Wilfried Zaha, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and Aaron Lennon.

Oxlade-Chamberlain obviously feels the cold more since moving from Saints, where he came through the academy ranks, bursting into the first team before his switch to Arsenal.

It was just two degrees when Newcastle hosted West Ham last Saturday, yet the Magpies proved to be a hardy bunch, well used to the cold, as none of Steve McClaren's men plumped for gloves as they ran out 2-1 victors.

Three of the visiting players wore gloves, though, and even manager Slaven Bilic was not immune, taking to his seat at St James' Park with a beanie



Arsenal's Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain wearing gloves

hat pulled tight over his head.

Jürgen Klopp opted for a snood as Liverpool hosted Manchester United last Sunday, but his players showed greater resilience than their boss, battling on without a single pair of gloves on display despite the temperature again being down at two degrees.

Bournemouth, West Brom and Swansea's players also went without, although their matches were played in a comparatively toasty four degrees, which was the same as the temperature at St Mary's as Saints defeated West Brom. Sadio Mane was the only player on display wearing gloves in that game.

Unsurprisingly, there were more gloves on display north of the Watford Gap, with Manchester City the standout winners of the winter warmers survey.

It was just 1C at the Etihad Stadium when Crystal Palace visited and half of Manuel Pellegrini's side took evasive action.

The numbers of glove-wearing players may well swell in the coming weeks as MeteoGroup — a team of meteorologists — has suggested this is just the start of a sustained cold spell.

"It's the middle of winter so these sorts of cold spells are not unusual, but we've not had a particularly cold winter so far, so expect it to stay for a while," a spokesperson said.

A whole new wave o

EASTLEIGH'S players, locked tightly in a huddle, while an appreciative travelling support afforded their heroes a rousing reception, will go down as one of the enduring images of the Spitfires' FA Cup escapades this year.

Chris Todd's side had just lost their third round replay at Bolton Wanderers but, really, they could have given no more, *writes PAUL McNAMARA.*

As Eastleigh's manager gathered his troops together, this was a moment to celebrate the club's progress to this stage of the competition, its increased standing — and the manner in which the Spitfires competed with a Championship team across two matches.

But it was also time to re-focus.

Talking after the game, Joe Partington revealed that he and his colleagues had relished the media hubbaloos that has swirled around the Silverlake Stadium, in the course of a fortnight that brought the cup's lone non-league survivors to the attention of a nation.

Eastleigh's outstanding right-back suggested that the manner in which his side not only coped with, but thrived on the additional scrutiny augurs well for what lies ahead. And that is what really matters now. For a club trying to break through barriers once considered impenetrable, the type of cup run that the Spitfires have strung together is invaluable.

A sense of success and a series of high-profile fixtures open doors to a whole new wave of opportunity.

This was a club that, despite its promotion into the National League in 2014, its expanding stadium and its altruistic owner, with his fans-first philosophy, remained a pretty well kept secret.

It needed something like a victory at League One Crewe Alexandra — achieved by Todd's side in the cup's first-round — to start spreading the message.

Now, following two captivating encounters with 2011 cup semi-finalists Bolton, with their attendant press coverage, the cat is well and truly out of the bag.

This is why Stewart Donald has coveted this sort of FA Cup adventure for his club from the minute he assumed full control at the Silverlake in 2012.

Now, it is about seizing the moment.

Partington, scorer of the sensational individual goal that had a disbelieving Spitfires' following dreaming of victory at Bolton on Tuesday, was adamant in the immediate aftermath of his exploits that he couldn't wait to get back into action against Boreham Wood this weekend.

Donald has quickly set the wheels in motion for what he has christened Operation 700; an initiative to try and encourage a 700+ strong



Eastleigh manager Chris Todd (centre) gives a team talk after the final whistle at Bolton



Bolton Wanderers' Mark Davies (left) and Eastleigh's Josh Payne battle for the ball during Tuesday's replay

Eastleigh support to back the team at their crucial clash with fellow promotion chasers Forest Green Rovers on February 20.

There were 686 Spitfires fanatics in the away seats at Bolton — some of that number were veterans of the club's Wessex League days, others newly hooked on the aspirational non-league side.

Affordable pricing and attractive football, on which Todd puts a

premium, will keep a good deal of those fans coming back from more.

The harsh reality, however, is that to retain a certain proportion of their mushrooming fanbase, and to attract the hundreds, indeed thousands more that Donald wants regularly watching his team, on pitch success is paramount.

For Eastleigh, as Partington pointed out on Tuesday, that means promotion into the Football

League. That is what Todd will have reminded his players as they joined together after the full-time whistle on Tuesday.

The 34-year-old, incredibly still only a football manager of four months standing, delivered the same message publicly at the end of the week.

Todd told this paper that his team's FA Cup deeds should act as the spark for them to pursue fur-

GOT A STORY FOR US? EMAIL echosport@dailyecho.co.uk

of opportunity ...



Kaid Mohamed runs away after equalising in Tuesday's FA Cup thriller at Bolton



James Constable tries to bring the ball under control at Bolton

ther glory.

Progress has been so rapid at the Silverlake in the past two-and-a-half years, it is impossible to resist wondering at how, from such humble surroundings, a formidable football club has developed.

But in that interview with the Echo Todd struck a significant note, when he said: "The cup run's been brilliant, a real marker for this football club.

"That little push on with the press and publicity is what we needed.

"It's given us a taste and hopefully we can use it to our benefit for the rest of the season."

As Todd indicates, Eastleigh have a fresh marker now. They are the team that reached the third round of the FA Cup and gave Bolton Wanderers a real run for their money across 180 minutes of battle.

They are the team that sealed a

play-off spot last season, their first ever in non-league's top-tier.

By extension, they are a team whose sights must now be on promotion into the Football League; it is the next logical step.

To actually accomplish that objective won't be easy, of course. If it was then Luton Town would not have required five cracks at it, before finally escaping the division in 2014.

Certainly, if getting out of the National League were a straightforward task then Eastleigh's fixture list wouldn't contain illustrious, traditional Football League names of the ilk of Wrexham, Tranmere Rovers and Grimsby Town.

It is actually a team that dropped into non-league football this term who are setting the pace now. Cheltenham Town, 23rd in League Two last season, top the table, holding a 12 point advantage over the fifth placed Spitfires.

Todd's team, then, even accounting for the fact they have played two fewer games than the league leaders, will have to perform out of their skins to land the title they crave.

There is probably little point in Eastleigh waiting for Gary Johnson's team to blow up, they have lost only twice in the league this season.

It is indicative of the National League's unforgiving nature that the two points the Spitfires yielded from their two most recent league outings – a 2-2 Boxing Day draw at Bromley, followed two days later by a 1-1 draw with Aldershot on home turf – saw Todd's men lose ground on all four teams above them.

If they are to leapfrog Dover, Grimsby, Forest Green and Cheltenham, then Eastleigh cannot afford to put a foot wrong from here. But under Todd they rarely have.

Even a home defeat by Gateshead in the FA Trophy last week, despite the potential trip to Wembley that competition offers, will play in the Spitfires' favour right now.

From the 42 points available since Todd heralded the start of his reign – originally as caretaker – by masterminding a victory at Wrexham, Eastleigh have taken 30.

If they continue accumulating points at that staggering rate then the Spitfires will end up around the 90 mark. Barnet won last season's title with 92.

To be this year's champions, then, Todd's men need to produce something extraordinary. Nevertheless, they have demonstrated time and again that they are capable of doing just that.

The manager has spoken of adding to his squad this month in order to inject a little extra zest for the kick to the finishing line. Donald will, unquestionably, back his man to the hilt.

With nine games to play before the end of February, Eastleigh will need to call on every ounce of the bottomless spirit and reserves that were on display in the north west this week.

And then, who knows, maybe the Spitfires next huddle will be called in honour of something very special indeed?

● Keep up to date with all the latest news from Eastleigh with the Daily Echo and The Pink.

We follow the Spitfires every step of the way, and not just in the FA Cup.

Top flight stars keeping out the cold

From facing page

Here are the overall results, starting with those most affected:

1. Manchester City (at home to Crystal Palace), five pairs of gloves, temperature 1C
2. Everton (away at Chelsea), four pairs of gloves, temperature 5C
3. Stoke (at home to Arsenal), four pairs of gloves, temperature 1C
4. West Ham (away at Newcastle), three pairs of gloves and a beanie, temperature 2C
5. Watford (away at Swansea), two pairs of gloves, temperature 4C
6. Aston Villa (at home to Leicester), two pairs of gloves, temperature 3C
7. Manchester United (away at Liverpool), two pairs of gloves, temperature 2C
8. Arsenal (away at Stoke), two pairs of gloves, temperature 1C
- 9= Chelsea (at home to Everton), one pair of gloves, temperature 5C
- 9= Tottenham (at home to



Sadio Mane was the only Saints player wearing gloves
Sunderland), one pair of gloves, temperature 5C

9= Sunderland (away at Tottenham), one pair of gloves, temperature 5C

12= Southampton (at home to West Brom), one pair of gloves, temperature 4C

12= Norwich (away at Bournemouth), one pair of gloves, temperature 4C

14. Leicester (away at Aston Villa), one pair of gloves, temperature 3C

15. Crystal Palace (away at Manchester City), one pair of gloves, temperature 1C

16= Bournemouth (at home to Norwich), no gloves, temperature 4C

16= West Brom (away at Southampton), no gloves, temperature 4C

16= Swansea (at home to Swansea), no gloves, temperature 4C

19= Liverpool (at home to Manchester United), no gloves, temperature 2C

19= Newcastle (at home to West Ham), no gloves, temperature 2C

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH LOCAL SPORT ONLINE AT dailyecho.co.uk

Ruby revives racing's all time greats

RUBY Walsh's miraculous recovery on Killultagh Vic at Leopardstown revived memories of other famous exploits in jumps racing over the years.

Here, Keith Hamer relives five of the best from the sport's archives:

Mandarin — 1962 Grand Steeplechase de Paris, Auteuil

Fred Winter's heroics in Paris is the stuff of legend. Ill and weak from starving himself to make the weight, he had to find the strength to get Mandarin round after the bit in the horse's mouth snapped after three fences. Without brakes or steering, Winter somehow conjured victory by a head, even after the horse had broken down before jumping the last fence.

Rhyme 'N' Reason — 1988 Grand National, Aintree

His chance looked to have gone when he sprawled on all fours at Bechers on the first circuit. Left in last place, jockey Brendan Powell showed patience is a virtue as he allowed Rhyme 'N' Reason to recover in his own time. Such was his progress that he was left in the lead five out. Though he was headed by Durham Edition at the second-last, David Elsworth's charge found more on the long run-in to get back up and win by four lengths.

Desert Orchid — 1990 Irish Grand National, Fairyhouse



Ruby Walsh

Just a month after losing his Gold Cup crown, when third to 100-1 outsider Norton's Coin, Desert Orchid rewarded his loyal supporters with a dramatic triumph in Ireland. Sent off the even-money favourite, despite giving 28lb to all but one of his rivals, the flying grey ran his rivals ragged and was well clear coming to the last. However, he made a complete mess of the fence, bringing gasps from the crowd. Thankfully Richard Dunwoody sat tight and the partnership pulled away to win by 12 lengths and capture Irish hearts.

Kingscliff - 2003 Coral.co.uk Handicap Chase, Ascot

Andrew Thornton's longevity in the weighing-room is renowned and his career can be summed up with this winning ride on Kingscliff. The left rein broke jumping the third fence which sent him broadside into the inside rail. Unperturbed, Thornton kept the combination intact for the remainder of the three-mile journey to win easily.

Wichita Lineman — 2009 William Hill Trophy Handicap Chase, Cheltenham

Even by Tony McCoy's standards, this was an extraordinary ride. His horse was never travelling and never jumping with any fluency. Only 10th at the second-last, McCoy had driven him into third place at the final fence and then finally got a positive response as an expectant Cheltenham crowd roared.

Sean Ervine: My cricket

IT is more than a decade since Sean Ervine gave up his international career with Zimbabwe, aged just 21, for Hampshire.

Six trophies, 12,933 runs, 361 wickets and 210 catches later, it is a move he does not regret, *writes SIMON WALTER.*

As he prepares to launch a well-deserved benefit ahead of his 12th season with the county, at the Ageas Bowl's Hilton Hotel tonight, Ervine puts an indoor net session on hold to reflect on his stellar career.

"I still remember arriving at the airport," he smiles. "[Hampshire dressing room attendant] Terry Brewer picked me up and I had to call him from a payphone...eventually we found each other."

Ervine is now one of Hampshire's most recognisable faces and the county's most decorated player since David Turner after helping to win three Lord's finals, two T20 finals and the County Championship's division two title.

It is a career that was born in Africa.

Ervine is the oldest of three boys encouraged to play by their dad Rory, a farmer who played first-class cricket for Rhodesia, in north Zimbabwe.

"My dad got me holding a bat as soon as I could stand and my grandad also played, so cricket was incorporated into our life from a very young age," said Ervine.

"We had some great battles in the back garden."

Ervine's middle brother Craig, 30, is a key player for Zimbabwe and also a left-hander.

"My youngest brother Ryan is also a handy cricketer but is right-handed so never got the handy-downs," smiles Ervine, who clearly has happy memories of a childhood that featured spectacular wildlife as much as a bat and ball.

"We grew up on a farm but only grew crops on 1500 hectares. The rest was bush, with lions, leopards, buffalo and antelope. We used to go camping, hunting and fishing and couldn't have asked for a better upbringing. How we all survived, I don't know!"

Ervine's grandad was a huge influence on his career.

"I was a boarder from seven years old, three hours away at a school close to my grandparents," he explains.

"My grandad would train all the kids and give 50 cents to whoever took a wicket, so we tried to make as much money as we could."

"We used to get retired at 50 so couldn't get close to 100, but one day I whacked it everywhere with my Slazenger V12."

"The teacher asked 'how many is Ervine on?' and they replied '102!'. He said 'you're retiring at the end of the over! That was my first-ever hundred."

"Sport was compulsory, quite different to how it is in the northern hemisphere. We played rugby,



Sean Ervine shows off the C & G Trophy after his hundred helped Hampshire beat Warwickshire at Lord's in 2005



Sean Ervine celebrates his century during Hampshire's 2005 C & G Trophy semi-final win at home to Yorkshire

hockey, tennis and a bit of squash as well.

"When I went to college, only an hour and a half from the main homestead, I played a lot of cricket and made all the national teams at a young age."

"Then we toured South Africa

and played against the likes of Graeme Smith, Jonathon Trott, Jacques Rudolph.

"My cricket went to another level. I played first-team cricket at 15 and was a really quick bowler then, more of a bowler than a batter."

Ervine was only just 17 when

he played at the U19 World Cup against an England side including future Hampshire teammates Michael Carberry and Jimmy Adams.

"I learnt so much during that period," said Ervine, who was still only 18 when he made his one-day international debut against Eng-

GOT A STORY FOR US? EMAIL echosport@dailyecho.co.uk

Cricketing life & times



Sean Ervine hits a six during Hampshire's T20 finals day semi-final loss to Lancashire in 2014



Sean Ervine is congratulated by his partner, Rachel, after Hampshire completed the 2012 limited-overs double

land in Bulawayo in October 2001.

"I'd learnt a heck of a lot at the international academy run by Davey Houghton and then got called into play a warm-up game against England, who were touring at the time.

"I did reasonably well, I took three wickets including Nasser [Hussain's] and Graham Thorpe's,

which I was pleased about.

"I'd shown enough potential to be picked up for the national team for that series. We lost 5-0 but I played the last two games.

"My debut was a bit of a baptism of fire - I went for 54 in seven overs. Nick Knight and Tres[cothick] blew me apart.

"I thought 'this is something else'. But the selectors stuck by me and nurtured me.

"You grow up wanting to play for your homeland and that was the ultimate. Both my parents and brothers were very proud of what I achieved. It was something for Craig to aim for."

Craig, who has played seven Tests, 47 ODIs and 16 T20Is, scored his first centuries for Zimbabwe last year.

"He's done way better than I did for Zim' which is brilliant," says Ervine. "Sadly, my grandad died 13-14 years so didn't get to see both of us play for our country but it was a huge honour for me and I'm very proud of what I achieved."

Ervine made his Test debut against England at Lord's, two months after England controversially refused to play the opening match of the 2003 World Cup against Zimbabwe in Harare because of security fears.

England's forfeited points helped Zimbabwe qualify for the Super Six stage, but Ervine was more focused on the cricket than the politics.

He admits to being "oblivious" to Henry Olonga and Andy Flower's black-armband protest against the death of democracy in Zimbabwe, during their opening game.

"I didn't play in that game but didn't really understand it, I was just excited to be at a World Cup," says Ervine.

"As you get older you come to understand the reasons and the huge risk they took."

Ervine prefers to recall his performance against New Zealand at the Super Six stage.

"Myself and Heath Streak put on a record 62 from the last three overs to push us to a decent total of around 250 [252-7]," he recalls.

Ervine contributed an unbeaten 31 from only 14 balls against an attack led by future Hampshire teammates Andre Adams and Shane Bond.

Zimbabwe went on to lose but Ervine - who had had hit a 41-ball 61 against a Pakistan attack of Waqar Younis, Wasim Akram, Shahid Afridi, Saqlain Mushtaq and Azhar Mahmood a few months earlier - was dropped for the next game.

It was a selection that contributed to Ervine giving up his international career a year later.

"It was a massive thing for me to give up, but it was coming for a while and that was one of a few instances where I thought 'where's this going?'. I was dropped because they needed someone of colour in the squad.

"We all thought it was wrong. With Zimbabwe being a minority team in world cricket, we needed the best XI on the park at all times, regardless of what colour they were. You play to win."

Later that year, Ervine was the pick of the Zimbabwe attack in Perth during the first of two Tests against Australia.

He took the big wickets of Justin Langer, Ricky Ponting, Steve Waugh and Darren Lehmann, but of more significance than his Test-best 4-146 was a meeting with Bruce Reid, the former Australia fast bowler who was Hampshire's bowling coach at the time.

continued on page 36

Programmed for a cracking time reading

SPORTS BOOK REVIEW

Fully Programmed: The Lost World of Football Programmes

By Derek Hammond & Gary Silke
Sportsbookofthemoonth.com price:
£14.88 saving £2.11 on rrp

The prolific writing team of Derek Hammond and Gary Silke, responsible for reviving memories of long-forgotten Subbuteo sets, outrageously long sideburns and the Football League Review in their cult classic, *Got, Not Got*, have, like a reliable centre-forward, produced the goods again with *Fully Programmed: The Lost World of Football Programmes*.

The pair's brief was to embark upon "a timewarp trip...in search of programme covers that are full of personality, memories and signs of lost time." One again, they've delivered in spades.

In the latest offering from these accomplished miners of footballing memorabilia, we come face-to-face with examples of every league club's programmes, mostly from the sixties and seventies. The duo also sprinkle in entertaining period references to life's long-forgotten highlights such as 'Pontin holiday', the Debenhams Cup Final and Goal magazine, while finding space to focus on programme covers depicting aerial shots of football grounds and features such as



the home manager's notes or the 'girl of the match', introduced by Coventry City, apparently.

Here we can laugh and revel at football's embarrassing past - it's akin to your Mum producing a photo of you in shorts on your first day at school and handing it to the girlfriend you've brought home for the first time.

Yet Kevin Cummins' beautiful photograph of a snow-covered Maine Road and Portsmouth's Soviet-style modernist cover from 1967-68 prove that not all programmes were ridiculously amusing, although the touched-up photograph of an overweight striker on the front of a Swindon programme from 1969-70 caused much laughter.

There are programmes from Cup Finals and testimonials, while the introduction of the 'match day magazine' and newspaper-style programmes, favoured by the likes of Derby, is also charted.

The pair award the prize for the best programme name ever to Stoke City who, in 1969-70, named theirs "The Ceramic City Clipper"; the one shown here depicts a diving Gordon Banks and makes reference to a centre page feature on Pelé. Class.

If you attended a football match between 1960 and 1992, you will love this book; if you didn't, it's worth reading because football programmes are clearly part of our social history.

BREAK FREE FROM YOUR TIMESHARE

The UK leading timeshare contract release and claim specialists

SOLVE YOUR TIMESHARE PROBLEMS AND SAVE ££££'s

- No upfront fees
- Are you tired of **paying increasingly high maintenance fees?**
- Are you frustrated with a **lack of availability** however early you try to book?
- **Are you locked into** a long term timeshare contract or even "in perpetuity?"
- Do you feel your timeshare was **miss-sold and that promises have been broken?**
- **Do you just want to get out of your timeshare** and stop paying fees?

Please contact us to get out of your timeshare

07935 846240

Home Choose Carpets



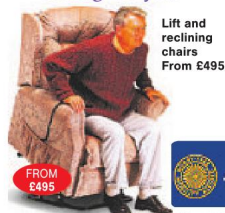
Over 20 Years Experience
100's of Carpet & Vinyl Samples to choose from,
In the comfort of your own Home

- **FREE FITTING • FREE ESTIMATES**
- **FREE DELIVERY**

We can move your furniture and uplift
& dispose of your old carpets

Please Ring 02380 803100
Freephone 0800 0387722
for immediate attention

GMA
GALLAGHER MOBILITY AIDS LTD
'Caring for you'



Free insurance
with each new
scooter



Lift and
reclining
chairs
From £495

- **USED EQUIPMENT
BOUGHT AND SOLD**
- **HIRE FACILITIES**
- **FULL MAINTENANCE**
- **BATH LIFTS**



EXTENSIVE RANGE OF
WHEELCHAIRS AND 3 & 4 WHEELED WALKERS

Call NOW

Southampton 023 8055 7777
www.disabledaids.org.uk

Independence Building, Belgrave Road, Southampton SO17 3ES
tel: 023 8055 7777
or Unit 4, The Industrial Business Centre, Grange Road, Christchurch
tel: 01425 270666

Finance arranged subject to status

Quality coach trips departing soon...

Want to know more?

Visit us online or call for your free brochure.

GREAT DAYS OUT

27 JAN	Wednesday Lunch Club	£28
30 JAN	Stitch & Creative Crafts at Sandown Park, Esher	£28
13 FEB	Portobello Road Market	£21
16 FEB	Shrek's Adventure and Thames Cruise	£51
18 FEB	Madame Tussauds	£45
20 FEB	London Zoo	£37
22 FEB	Snowdrops at Kingston Lacy	£27
VARIOUS	Adinkerk	£40
1 MAR	Pohill Garden Centre and Sevenoaks	£21
2 MAR	Morton in Marsh & Bourton on the Water	£21
3 MAR	Devizes	£21

Coliseum
COACHES

023 8047 2377

www.coliseumcoaches.co.uk

*All day excursions are subject to availability.

BOILER REPLACEMENT

- * Fully fitted with digital programmer
- * Full 5 year guarantee on all parts.
- * **FREE** Magna Cleaner - worth £170
- * **FREE SURVEY** - No salesman will call
- * **LOW COST** - from £1,675 plus VAT
- * 5 year terms available

£1,675 + VAT

BSA REGAL
heating and plumbing
WEST QUAY ROAD SOUTHAMPTON

OR ONLY £42
PER MONTH (FIXED)

for full details visit our web site:

www.heatingmyhome.com

023 8036 6423



COACH & HORSES



WINTER OFFERS & ENTERTAINMENT

Monday 5 to 8.30pm Pie or Sausage night £7.50

Tuesday night Quiz from 8.30pm

Tuesday Early Bird Deal 5 to 7pm 20% off your main course (T&Cs apply)

Wednesdays Steak Night 2 80z rumps with our usual trimmings £18

Thursdays kids eat free (1 kid meal free per main course purchased)

Fizzy Friday start the weekend in style bottle of prosecco £12.95

Sunday Roast £9.95

Monday to Friday 12 to 3pm -

2 main courses for £10 from our selected menu

Live Music every other Friday

Fosters £2.95 a pint

Follow all the sports action here on BT Sports & Sky Sports large screen

Coach & horses, 11 Southampton Road, Cadnam, SO40 2NF.

Tel: 02380 813120

Follow us on Facebook for more offers



FUNCTION ROOM AVAILABLE

FABULOUS LOCATION

- WEDDINGS * PARTIES**
- MEETINGS * SKITTLES**
- CHRISTENINGS * WAKES**

Telephone or email for availability or a brochure - Bar and exceptional food menu (if required) from buffet to 3 course sit down dinner we cater for any size function
10 - 100 people

THE MORTIMER ARMS
ROMSEY ROAD
OWER (Jct 2 M27)
ROMSEY, SO51 6AF

02380 814379

www.mortimerarms.co.uk
info@mortimerarms.co.uk



UP TO 24 HOURS IN FRANCE
FOR AS LITTLE AS *£5.00
PER PERSON, RETURN

Here's a great opportunity for a group of friends or family to escape this winter with a short jaunt to France. Why not take a 2 night break to St.Malo travelling out most Monday, Wednesday or Friday nights and back overnight the following day with a full day ashore or you can travel out and back the same day Thurs- Mon from/to Poole to Cherbourg with just enough time to replenish all those French goodies or a Tues & weds travel back overnight with longer in Cherbourg and a chance to eat ashore, alternatively choose any combination of our Cross channel routes and spend up to 24 hours ashore in some of the best short break destinations in France and all this for just £5.00 per person for Newsquest readers travelling with their car. France is still a great place to shop and there's some great on board bargains too. Beers, wines and spirits purchased on board can also be delivered straight to your car. If you take overnight crossings there's Free reclining seats and cabins at half price too.

Brittany Ferries

To book call: 0330 159 7000 Quote reference: 16SE1E
Or book on line at: www.brittanyferries.co.uk/16se1e

All these fares apply for stays not exceeding 24 hours in France and where indicated using specific sailings. *The, per passenger fares quoted are based on a required minimum of 2 persons travelling. All bookings must be made by no later than 14th March 2016. Brittany Ferries condition of booking and carriage apply together with additional conditions specific to these offers including full payment with booking by debit or credit card only. A credit card charge will apply. No charge for debit cards. No refund when cancelled by client. Amendments charged at £25.00. Bookings/amendments cannot be made within 24 hours of travel. Fares are valid for travel as described and as shown per ticket. If either portion is not used or travel is not as booked then, the applicable single or return fare shall apply and the difference collected from the credit/debit card used for the original payment. All vehicles exceeding 6m long and/or 2.6m high, trailers and caravans are excluded from this offer. Availability is from a limited and variable allocation. A passport is required for travel and Visas where applicable for non-EU citizens. **Time ashore subject to schedules and weather conditions. A Newspaper Service Charge of £1.50 per booking applies and NO Vouchers are required to be collected.

NEWSQUEST Media Group

READER OFFER

Travel Dates: Until 23rd March 2016
Booking Dates: Until 14th March 2016
Available on all cross channel services.
All fares quoted are return

Foot passenger *£12.00
Car passenger (min 2 persons and up to max of 5 persons - standard car only) *£5.00
Car *£40.00
Motorcycle *£18.00
Bicycles *£7.00

SUPPLEMENTS:

All sailings - Cars exceeding 5m long
not exceeding 6m *£30.00
Cars exceeding 1.83m high to 2.6m *£30.00

EXCLUSIONS:

Vehicles over 6m long and/or 2.6m high, trailers and caravans. Portsmouth/St.Malo/Portsmouth 12th & 13th February 2016

DISCOUNTED OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION
% from Public tariff
Reclining seats
Cabins (excluding Commodore, Deluxe and Club Class) -50%

FREE (Subject to availability)

So, who is Swansea's new boss?

FORMER Udinese boss Francesco Guidolin has been named Swansea's new head coach.

The Italian, who will work alongside Alan Curtis at the Liberty Stadium, has an interesting CV.

Here, the Sports Pink looks at five things Swans fans should know about their new man.

1. He knew a lot about last Monday's opponents Watford.

When Guidolin called time on his four-season stint as Udinese boss in May 2014, he kept working with the club's owners, the Pozzo family.

His brief was to supervise the three teams under the Pozzos' control - namely Udinese, Granada, and Watford.

And when Slavisa Jokanovic left Vicarage Road in the summer, Guidolin was almost asked to step in before the position ultimately went to Quique Sanchez Flores.

2. He could have moved to England nine years ago

In October 2007 an out-of-work Guidolin thanked QPR for their interest in him but turned down the chance to replace John Gregory.

3. He failed to win big in Monte Carlo
Guidolin has coached outside of Italy only once before in his career. He signed a two-year deal with ambitious Monaco in 2005 but left the principality



Francesco Guidolin

after a poor 10th-placed finish in his first season.

The Venetian was soon back at Palermo, the club he had previously restored to Serie A after a 35-year absence. Under his stewardship, the Sicilians finished fifth in 2007 to reach the UEFA Cup.

4. He is a promotion expert

Guidolin forged his career in Italy on masterminding a series of improbable promotions. His unfancied Vicenza side climbed out of Serie B to win the Coppa Italia and qualify for Europe in the late 1990s.

And when Parma suffered a shock relegation in 2008, Guidolin helped them bounce back immediately.

5. He turned Alexis Sanchez into the player he is today

Guidolin cannot claim to have recruited Sanchez himself - the Chilean arrived at the Stadio Friuli two years before him, in 2008 - but he certainly got the best out of the man from Tocopilla.

He is credited with transforming Sanchez from a winger into the creative forward who now provides such a formidable goalscoring threat for Arsenal.

Sanchez was key to Udinese's fourth and third-placed finishes in Serie A, which brought about entry to the Champions League's qualifying rounds.

'Slug' looking forward

from page 33

"Bruce put me in touch with Paul Terry, the Hampshire coach, and he told me there was an offer on the table.

"So I knew I had that backing when I eventually came to my decision in May 2004."

Ervine made 53 in that Test at the Waca before twice top scoring in what transpired to be his last two Test innings - a gutsy 86 and a match-winning 74 against Bangladesh in Harare.

He had made his first century for Zimbabwe, a run-a-ball 100 against India in Adelaide, a few months before bringing the curtain down on his international career, after five Tests and 42 one-day internationals.

Ervine was one of Zimbabwe Cricket's 15 'rebels', former Hampshire bowler Streak being another.

He also played for Western Australia from 2004-08, but could not have asked for a better first season with Hampshire in 2005.

"Having to leave home at 21 and start all over again after reaching what I thought was the pinnacle of my career made it hard to focus, but I was able to go home for a week before joining up with Hampshire and that was pure medicine," he recalls.

Ervine was helped to settle by the presence of his old school friend Greg Lamb. Lamb had joined the Hampshire staff a year earlier, and was partly responsible for the 'Slug' moniker that followed Ervine to the Ageas Bowl.

"It came about at high school when I was 15 and very, very slow between the wickets," explains Ervine, who developed a good friendship with another African during that first season - a certain Kevin Pietersen.

Amazing

Their paths had first crossed seven years earlier. "He cussed me pretty hard when he was bowling his filthy off-spinners for Natal U15s against Zimbabwe," laughs Ervine.

"When we were in the same changing room together in 2005 I made sure I reminded him of that and he apologised for it!

"We've got on well since then and probably will do for years to come. He's an amazing cricketer; so much talent but he worked hard.

"His hands, especially, are amazing but he wasn't even a recognised batsman to start with. He was batting in the lower order for Natal when I first played against him. He worked really hard on his batting to be the best.

"He's a great example for youngsters."

Ervine's annus mirabilis was 2005, Hampshire's second season under Shane Warne. His 821 runs at 30.4 and 42 wickets at 32.4 helped Hampshire to the runners-up spot behind Nottinghamshire - their best County Championship position for 20 years.



Sean Ervine in T20 batting action for Hampshire against Middlesex in July 2013



Sean Ervine, Jimmy Adams and Simon Katich at Hampshire's pre-season press call in April 2012

His first season with the county reached its zenith with centuries in the semi-final and final of the C & G Trophy as Hampshire claimed their first silverware for 13 years.

"That is well documented as being one of my best seasons," continues Ervine.

"The relationship with everyone in that change room was massive. Playing with Warne was amazing

and definitely one of the highlights of my career.

"His vision and understanding of different players, his ability to pick weaknesses, change the field accordingly and for it all to come off... he was a freak of cricket nature."

"It was the start of a very successful period."

That season was not all good. It reached its nadir when Ervine

ruptured cruciate ligaments while bowling to Notts captain Stephen Fleming in the final game.

He has not taken more than 26 first-class wickets in a season since. "I've always said you've done well if you get through a county season with no major injuries," he says.

"That affected me and I might have lost a bit of pace because it took the spring out of my knee.

"I was told I had four years of bowling left but have worked really hard to maintain it."

Ervine has several fond memories from his Hampshire career. The T20 win at the Rose Bowl in 2010 was the highlight of a season in which he was at his most prolific with the bat, his first-class aggregate of 976 runs at 42.43 including a career-best 237 not out against Somerset.

His C & G Trophy-winning 104 against Warwickshire in the 2005 Lord's final stands out as his greatest Hampshire knock, but ask him for his favourite Championship innings and it is not one of his ten centuries.

Magnificent

"My 94 not out against Durham at Basingstoke in 2008," he replies.

It is hard to argue with that. After conceding a first-innings deficit of 60, Hampshire needed 240 to win after bowling Durham out for 179 at May's Bounty. They were 77-5 at one stage, against a Durham attack including Graham Onions and Liam Plunkett.

But Ervine was magnificent on a club wicket as Hampshire won by two wickets. It was one of four victories from the last five games as Hampshire secured their place

ard to bright future



Sean Ervine celebrates his double century against Somerset in 2010

in the first division for another season.

The archetypal team man, Ervine explained: "When I got 237, Tresco also made 200 and it was a draw. But the 94 in that win against Durham helped us stay up from a position where we were not going to come close.

"Mark Davies was also playing and [off-spinner] Paul Wiseman was turning the ball what felt like half a metre!"

Big game

A big-game player, Ervine also made 44 not out in the 2010 T20 final against Somerset and 57 when Hampshire completed the 2012 limited-overs double by beating Warwickshire.

"I thrive under pressure and probably learnt that from playing international cricket," he said.

But the 2012 double may not have happened had Ervine decided to return to the international stage with Zimbabwe so he could play at the 2011 World Cup.

It is the only occasion he has considered leaving Hampshire.

"I'd been home during the winter and had an offer on the table," explains Ervine.

"They said 'listen, we want you to come back [to Zimbabwe], would you be interested?'"

"I said I really needed to speak to Hampshire. It was quite short notice because they needed to give the World Cup squad to the ICC.

"Before I knew it my name was on their list for the World Cup.

"I had Chalks [Hampshire director of cricket Giles White] ringing



Hampshire celebrate a wicket off Sean Ervine's bowling against Kent at The Ageas Bowl

me to ask what was going on.

"I said 'I don't know why they've done it' and 'don't worry because I hadn't signed anything'. I had a chat with Chalks and Rod [Bransgrove] in Barbados during the Caribbean T20 [in January 2011] and said I needed make a decision.

"The lure of coming back to international cricket, to play in the same team as my brother, was pret-

ty great.

"That wavered me towards playing for Zimbabwe. But I said 'let me just test the waters and ask Zimbabwe Cricket to pay a portion of what they promised by a certain date just to see if they were legit'.

"When that date came there were no funds. So I rang them to ask why and they said they were just waiting on a few things.

"I said 'you're obviously not serious about this situation so I'm out'. I'd committed to Zimbabwe the day before but went back to Rod and Chalks to say what had happened, that I didn't feel comfortable and that if their offer was still on the table I would take it.

"It was the right decision. Even though they've shown a lot of potential, Zimbabwe have really struggled.

"I get feedback from Craig all the time and they weren't paid for playing at the last World Cup in Australia and New Zealand until three months afterwards."

Zimbabwe's loss has been Hampshire's gain, twice over. Only Shaun Udal (his benefit chairman), Robin Smith, Adie Aymes, Dimi Mascarenhas and Jimmy Adams have played more first-class matches during the Ageas Bowl era and Ervine is confident he will be around for a few years yet.

"I've got loads in the tank, I've only just turned 33," he says.

"Time flies but my broken finger [which sidelined Ervine for much of last season] was a freak accident.

"I've played every other game for the last few years and in terms of fitness I feel great."

Ervine first played at the Ageas Bowl during the stadium's first ODI, Zimbabwe against South Africa in May 2003, but it is now hard to imagine the place without him.

He often walks to the ground through Telegraph Wood from his home in West End, where he lives with his partner, Rachel, a former England netball trialist, and their children - Scarlett, five, and Ellis, who will soon be one - and is confident his contract will be extended beyond the end of this season.

Huge task

"We're waiting on Hampshire to put forward something both parties can agree too," reveals Ervine, who believes the county can build on their Great Escape of last season - and enjoy their best Championship season since 2005.

"Staying up was an amazing effort and if we can take that hunger and fight from the last six weeks of last season into the whole of the next, we will go close to second or third place.

"It's going to be a huge task and tough cricket because eight of those [first division] teams are all Test counties.

"There may be a slight worry in that quite a few of us are in our mid-thirties and, potentially, could finish all in one go.

"That would leave a big gap, which could be an issue, but our 25 year-olds have lots of experience and lots more are coming through."

For information on Slug's benefit year, visit seanervine2016.com, follow @seanervine2016 on Twitter and Instagram, 'like' the Facebook page Sean Ervine Benefit 2016 or email info@seanervine2016.com

Johanna's top scalps in ladies' tennis

GREAT Britain's Johanna Konta claimed the best win of her career after knocking out Venus Williams in the first round of the Australian Open this week.

Eighth-seeded Williams is a former world number one with seven grand slam singles titles but Konta claimed a 6-4 6-2 victory in less than an hour and 20 minutes.

Here, the Sports Pink looks at five of the biggest victories Konta had claimed in her career previously.

Ekaterina Makarova (Eastbourne, June 2015): Konta recorded the first major scalp of her career when she dumped world number eight Makarova out of the Aegon International. Ranked 146th in the world at the time, wild card Konta beat fourth seed Makarova 6-2 6-4. Konta then knocked out 14th-seeded Spaniard Garbine Muguruza 6-4 4-6 6-3 to make the quarter-finals. A matter of weeks later Muguruza would reach the final at Wimbledon.

Garbine Muguruza (US Open, Sept 2015): Konta made it successive wins against Muguruza with victory over the Spaniard during her fairytale run to the last 16 of the US Open. Qualifier Konta, up to 97th in the world at this point, edged out ninth-seeded Muguruza 7-6



Johanna Konta

(7/4) 6-7 (4/7) 6-2 in the second round.

Andrea Petkovic (US Open, Sept 2015): That win over Muguruza set up a third-round showdown with Petkovic and Konta produced another upset to send the world number 18 packing with a 7-6 (7/2) 6-3 triumph. Konta, who was on a 16-match winning streak at the time, saw her remarkable run at Flushing Meadows ended in the following round with a 7-5 6-3 loss to two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitová, the fifth seed.

Andrea Petkovic (Wuhan Open, Sept 2015): Konta continued her impressive form at the Wuhan Open where, after winning two qualifying matches, she once again overcame German Petkovic to reach the second round. Petkovic was the 13th seed and world number 16 but Konta - 63rd in the rankings - emerged victorious 6-4 7-5.

Simona Halep (Wuhan Open, Sept 2015): Konta's second-round opponent in China was two-time Australian Open winner Victoria Azarenka and the Briton advanced when her opponent retired with a leg injury when trailing 6-4 1-0. That set up a third-round clash with top seed and world number two Simona Halep. No player had won more hardcourt matches in 2015 than Halep going into the match, but Konta beat her 6-3 3-6 7-5.

SATURDAY'S FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

Barclays Premier League

Crystal P1	Tottenham Hotspur3
Vertoghen 30 og	Kane 63 Aili 84 Chadli 90
HT 1-0	
Leicester3	Stoke0
Drinkwater 42 Vardy 66 Ulloa 87 HT 1-0	Att 32,018
Man Utd0	SAINTS1
HT 0-0	Austin 87 Att 75,408
Norwich4	Liverpool5
Mbokani 29 Naismith 41 Hoolahan 54 pen Bassong 90 HT 2-1	Firmino 18,63 Henderson 55 Milner 75 Lallana 90 Att 27,108
Sunderland1	AFC Bournemouth1
Van Aanholt 45 HT 1-1	Afoke 13 Att 41,367
Watford2	Newcastle1
Ighalo 46 Cathcart 58 HT 0-0	Lascelles 71 Att 20,611
W.B.A.0	A. Villa0
Shaw 10 HT 0-0	Att 26,165
West HamL	Man CityL
HT L-L	

	HOME						AWAY							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Leicester	23	6	4	1	19	13	7	7	4	1	23	13	47	
Arsenal	22	7	4	1	16	6	6	6	3	3	21	15	44	
Man City	22	9	1	2	33	12	4	3	3	10	9	43		
Tottenham	23	6	4	2	22	9	5	5	1	19	10	42		
Man Utd	23	5	4	2	12	5	5	5	3	4	16	16	37	
West Ham	22	4	4	2	16	12	5	4	3	18	14	35		
Liverpool	23	4	4	3	14	15	5	5	4	4	16	17	34	
SAINTS	23	6	2	4	22	13	3	4	4	10	11	33		
Stoke	23	5	2	4	13	10	4	4	4	11	11	33		
Watford	23	5	2	5	13	11	4	4	3	4	14	15	32	
Crystal P	23	4	2	6	13	11	5	2	4	11	12	31		
Everton	22	3	4	4	23	20	3	7	1	16	12	29		
W.B.A.	23	4	3	5	14	17	3	4	4	8	13	28		
Chelsea	22	4	4	4	20	19	2	3	5	11	15	25		
Bournemouth	23	3	4	4	14	16	3	3	6	13	22	25		
Norwich	23	3	4	3	16	15	2	2	8	12	28	23		
Swansea	22	4	4	4	12	16	1	1	3	6	8	14	22	
Newcastle	23	3	5	4	19	18	2	1	8	6	23	21		
Sunderlin	23	3	3	5	13	12	2	1	9	15	34	19		
A. Villa	23	3	1	4	6	8	14	1	3	8	10	24	13	

SkyBet Championship

Birmingham3	Ipswich0
Buckley 23 Torai 54 Kieftenbeld 70 HT 1-0	Att 18,272
Bolton3	M K Dons1
Holding 7 Pratley 41 Ameobi 90 HT 2-0	Murphy 89
Brighton2	Huddersfield1
Zamora 30 Wilson 66 HT 1-1	Bunn 45 Att 25,367
Cardiff2	Rotherham2
Pilkington 25,60	Newell 44 Pilkington 49 og HT 1-0
HT 1-1	Att 14,885
Charlton1	Blackburn1
Lennon 30 HT 1-1	Rhodes 45
Fulham0	Hull1
HT 0-0	Hernandez 90 pen Att 16,935
Leeds Utd0	Bristol C0
Doukara 59 HT 0-0	Att 20,441
Middlesbro0	Nottm For1
HT 0-0	Ward 70 Att 24,975
Preston1	Brentford3
Reach 24	Cunningham 22 og Judge 43 Swift 80 Att 11,080
HT 1-2	
Q.P.R.1	Wolves1
Potter 2 HT 1-0	Henry 48 Att 15,266
Reading1	Sheff Wed1
Cooper 74 HT 0-1	Hooper 10 Att 18,972

	HOME						AWAY							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hull	28	11	2	1	30	6	6	3	5	15	12	56	1	
Middlesbro	27	10	2	2	20	3	7	2	4	17	11	55	2	
Brighton	28	9	2	5	17	13	4	9	1	17	15	50	3	
Derby City	27	8	3	2	24	12	6	5	2	14	9	49	4	
Burnley	27	8	3	2	25	11	5	6	3	17	13	48	5	
Sheff Wed	28	9	4	1	27	12	3	6	5	15	19	46	6	
Birmingham	28	7	5	2	16	14	6	5	3	21	14	46	7	
Ipswich	28	5	6	3	18	15	7	3	4	19	20	45	8	
Cardiff	28	7	6	1	21	13	3	5	4	11	18	41	9	
Brentford	28	6	2	6	18	20	5	4	5	23	20	39	10	
Nottm For	28	6	3	2	20	12	3	6	5	10	13	38	11	
Wolves	28	4	5	5	17	19	6	3	5	20	19	38	12	
Reading	28	6	5	3	17	10	3	3	8	15	21	35	13	
Q.P.R.	28	4	8	2	22	17	4	3	7	13	18	35	14	
Preston	28	4	6	4	12	13	4	5	5	13	14	35	15	
Leeds Utd	28	4	5	5	12	15	4	6	4	16	17	35	16	
Huddersfield	28	5	4	5	22	16	3	4	7	15	23	32	17	
Blackburn	27	3	7	3	12	9	3	5	6	12	15	30	18	
Fulham	28	4	4	6	23	23	2	6	6	20	25	28	19	
M K Dons	28	6	1	7	13	19	1	4	9	10	22	26	20	
Rotherham	28	5	2	7	21	23	2	2	10	13	26	25	21	
Bristol C	28	3	5	6	15	22	2	4	8	9	25	24	22	
Charlton	28	3	6	5	15	22	1	3	10	7	32	21	23	
Bolton	28	3	8	3	15	15	0	3	11	9	31	20	24	

SkyBet League One

Barnsley6	Rochdale1
Mawson 8, Winnall 52,69,89, Watkins 84, Long 90 HT 1-0	Mendez-Laing 65 Att 8,823
Burton Albion1	Shrewsbury2
McGrory 18 HT 1-0	Mangan 52, Whalley 90 Att 3,870
Chesterfield1	Millwall2
Morsy 25 HT 1-1	O'Brien 27, Gregory 47 Att 7,078
Crewe1	Wigan1
Inman 43 HT 1-1	Wabara 16 Att 6,010
Fleetwood Town0	Doncaster0
HT 0-0	Att 3,508
Gillingham2	Peterborough1
Norris 49, Dack 65 HT 0-1	Oztumer 25 Att 4,449
Oldham0	Bury1
HT 0-1	L Clarke 10 Att 5,537
Port Vale1	Bradford1
Leitch-Smith 2 HT 1-0	Proctor 65 Att 4,849
Scunthorpe3	Colchester0
Hopper 60, Madden 62,68 HT 0-0	Att 3,332
Sheff Utd1	Swindon1
HT 1-0	Ormonde-Ottwell 79 Att 19,012
Southend3	Coventry0
Payne 24, Barnett 31,68 pen HT 2-0	Att 8,767
Walsall1	Blackpool1
Demetriou 66 HT 0-0	Philliskirk 90 Att 5,022

SkyBet League Two

Bristol R1	Plymouth1
Bodin 79 HT 0-0	Simpson 88 Att 10,190
Cambridge1	Hartlepool1
Williamson 90 HT 0-0	Gray 71 Att 5,054
Carlisle1	York1
Kennedy 15 HT 1-0	Summerfield 87 Att 3,869
Exeter2	Acc Stanley1
Nichols 5, Ribeiro 79 HT 1-1	McCartan 3 Att 3,869
Mansfield0	Luton2
HT 0-1	McCourt 7, Ruddock 54 Att 4,245
Newport County2	Dagenham1
Ayina 83, Wilkinson 83 HT 0-2	Doidge 1, Worral 6 Att 2,233
Northampton3	Morecambe1
Collins 30 HT 0-0	Mullin 72 Att 2,927
O'Toole0	AFC Wimbledon2
McDonald 51 HT 2-0	Elliott 9, Barcham 83 Att 5,301
St. Albans0	Oxford Utd1
HT 0-1	Bowery 76 Att 17,840
POMPEY0	Barnet1
HT 0-0	Att 3,801
Stevenage0	Leyton O2
Wycombe 10 HT 0-0	Simpson 64, Jhalado-Martin 89 Att 4,432
Wymcombe0	Crawley1
HT 0-0	Barnard 83 Att 3,423

HOME											AWAY														
P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt					
Northampton	27	10	1	3	24	12	8	3	2	25	19	56	1	Plymouth	28	8	2	4	22	15	9	3	2	21	50
Plymouth	27	6	5	2	18	10	8	4	2	24	13	51	2	Oxford Utd	27										



We are approved contractors to University of Southampton and PFP.

Enterprise Roofing Ltd. are a family run business with over 30 years' experience in all aspects of roofing. Taking pride in our work is first and foremost in each and every project. We realise having your roof replaced can be intrusive so we try and make our stay as smooth as possible, keeping both residential and commercial customers up to date with progress. Keeping the site safe and clean is a priority.

We endeavour to keep to the work schedule set out and aim to achieve our targets, even with the British weather!

Our operatives are all health and safety trained and we are CHAS Accredited (Construction Health and Safety) and supported with 10 to 25 year insurance backed guarantees plus £10 million Public and Employers insurance.

SPECIAL OFFER

FREE UPVC FASCIAS AND GUTTERING WITH THE FIRST 10 RE-ROOF ORDERS ACCEPTED

Subject to T & C's



**WE SPECIALISE IN
RE-ROOFING DOMESTIC
PROPERTIES
CHIMNEY RE-BUILDS AND
CAVITY LEAD TRAYS
INSTALLED**

**Redbridge Business Park,
Old Redbridge Road, Southampton, SO15 0NN**

Tel: 023 8051 1123

023 8066 8808

Mob: 07872147884

email: martin@enterprise-roofing.co.uk

www.enterprise-roofing.co.uk

Are your teeth or dentures chipped, worn, mobile, discoloured or just painful? THERE IS A SOLUTION.

Your first port of call when it comes to anything denture related is Lee Butler at www.naturallookingdentures.net. Lee has always prided himself on offering the best denture service available and the new look is enhancing that top class reputation.



For the first time ever, you do not have to make an appointment to see the dentist for removable dental appliances, Lee Butler is the



first CDT in Hampshire to be qualified and officially registered with the General Dental Council. As Lee says, 'I am now able to provide an unparalleled service for my customers including value for money and professional customer support'. The fact that there are only a small number of CDT's in the UK who are registered with the GDC shows what an achievement this is for Lee, and more importantly what a benefit this new service is for Denture wearers in Hampshire.

Did you realise there is a service for new denture provisions? You can see the person who makes and fits your dentures. Lee personally constructs each set of dentures to perfectly comfort fit the individual based on their own personal sizes which leads to satisfied patient. It truly is a bespoke service.

Lee has now expanded his services. As well as having premises in Winchester and Hayling Island, Lee is available for consultation at Elmsleigh house, Farnham and Changing faces in Clanfield. Just phone any of the numbers below convenient to you and you are a step closer to restoring the perfect smile. If you need to replace, worn, chipped, mobile or painful dentures, you can get your 'teeth in a day'. With the advances in technology and materials, you can start in morning and have your completed dentures or implant assisted bridges by the afternoon. The Columbus Bridge is a revolutionary technique which enables the experienced dental team that Lee works within at these clinics to provide fixed, firm teeth in a day whilst also restoring a natural smile, confidence and self esteem.

Lee is very much looking forward to the challenges ahead, and providing a bespoke dental service for years to come!



Book Your Personal Consultation Today

Contact Us today to book your appointment with Naturally Beautiful Dentures services



Direct Dentures Care Centres
23 Stockbridge Road
WINCHESTER
Hampshire
SO22 6RN
Tel: 01962 864 655
www.naturallookingdentures.net
info@www.naturallookingdentures.net



Hampshire House
169a High Street
Southampton
SO14 2BY
Tel: 02380 070178
www.changesfacesdentures.co.uk

Changing Faces Hampshire
3 South Lane
CLANFIELD
Hampshire
PO8 0RB
Tel: 02392 990 151
www.naturallookingdentures.net
info@www.naturallookingdentures.net



Direct Denture Care Centres
44 Creek Road,
HAYLING ISLAND,
Hampshire
PO11 9RD
Tel: 01962 864655
www.naturallookingdentures.net
info@www.naturallookingdentures.net